

Soccer chiefs told to heed police

Waddington threatens veto on fixtures

By Philip Webster and John Goodbody

FOOTBALL League officials were yesterday ordered to follow police advice on scheduling fixtures or face legislation giving the police the right to veto trouble-threatened matches.

Mr David Waddington, the Home Secretary, summoned league officials to his Commons office after one of the most outspoken public dressings-down ever given by a minister to the football authorities.

In the Commons, he had condemned the league for its repeated refusal to heed police requests to reschedule last Saturday's Bournemouth-Leeds match which has thrown into fresh doubt the return of English clubs to European competition.

Mr Waddington said the League's refusal to move the match from a Bank holiday weekend was a serious mistake. "The fixture would never have taken place and the trouble would never have arisen if the Football League had heeded the advice of the Chief Constable as long ago as last June and repeated last month." He added that "any sensible body of men" would have done so.

Mr Waddington was speaking as Mr Colin Moynihan, the Minister for Sport, was negotiating measures to minimize the chances of hooliganism among England supporters in Italy for the World Cup next month.

Mr Moynihan agreed a four-point strategy with government and football officials in Rome. England supporters arrested for minor offences will be deported; ferries to

Sardinia — where England play their first three games — will be heavily policed with England supporters segregated from other passengers and no alcohol available; no tickets will be sold on match days; and the Italian authorities will not pay unemployment benefit to Englishmen claiming they are looking for work while watching the tournament.

Mr Moynihan emphasized that the important factor for the Government to examine before recommending to UEFA, the European Football Union, whether English clubs should be readmitted to European competition was not so much the behaviour of supporters at home, but their behaviour abroad.

He said it would be unwise and irresponsible for UEFA to make any decision before the World Cup, which opens on June 8.

Meanwhile, Mr Brian Weight, the Dorset chief constable, told the league that Saturday's disorder could have ended in a disaster similar to the Hillsborough tragedy. He called the outbreaks of violence predictable and avoidable and said the league must bear some responsibility.

In a strongly-worded letter to the League secretary, he wrote: "During the Bank holiday weekend my officers were forced to deal with 3,000 to 4,000 so-called Leeds supporters in the county of Dorset who came for no other reason than to terrorize the public. Shop windows were smashed, numerous cars damaged, women indecently assaulted, families and my officers were attacked and injured."

The violent groups had no tickets and had tried to force their way into the ground. "If they had been successful in breaching the lines of police officers and forcing entrance to the club grounds we would have had another Hillsborough disaster — a disaster that you appear to have disregarded. This whole incident was predictable and with your co-operation could have been avoided."

Mr Arthur Sandford, chief executive of the Football League, and Mr Bill Fox, its president, felt the full force of Mr Waddington's anger at their meeting last night. He sought from them a full explanation of their decision to turn down the requests of Dorset police to change the fixture — the first in a letter on June 26 last year. Mr Waddington told MPs that on that occasion the police got what one of his officials described as a "brush off". Mr

Waddington also made plain to the league officials that the Government would consider the call from the Chief Constable of Dorset for the police to be given a veto on fixtures where they foresee the risk of disorder.

However, he said in the Commons that such powers would take time to put into place and there was clear need for the football authorities to work out urgently with chief constables a sensible understanding on handling football fixtures with a high risk of trouble.

It is clear that Mr Waddington would prefer an immediate working arrangement between the league and the police, rather than legislation.

He said: "My own view is that we have got to make the Football League address itself to its responsibilities now, because even if one were to decide that new legislation was necessary, it would take some time to get that legislation on the statute book."

"The question still remains. Why does not a responsible football league heed the advice which is given to them by the people who know about the situation? Why did it not heed what the chief constable of Dorset had to say? Any sensible body of men would have done so."

At their meeting, he also asked what the league planned to do about potential public order problems created by the Leeds promotion to the first division.

Mr Waddington told MPs earlier: "I am determined that the football authorities should be made to face up to their responsibilities right now to prevent any repetition of the deplorable scenes of the Bank holiday weekend."

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Police want to drop criminal vetting role

By Quentin Cowdy, Home Affairs Correspondent

SENIOR police officers are urging the Government to consider whether police should be relieved of the responsibility of maintaining the national collection of criminal records, it was disclosed yesterday.

The Association of Chief Police Officers has asked ministers to investigate whether the tasks currently performed by the National Identification Bureau, based at Scotland Yard, should be transferred to another existing public sector

agency or to a new body. In either case, police would cease to have responsibility for collating records or vetting job applicants for employers. They would, however, be able to tap the database when investigating crimes.

Mr Brian Johnson, chairman of the association's committee on the disclosure of convictions, said officers had reached no final conclusion.

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Framed by Rodin's "The Burghers of Calais", Mrs Kazimiera Prunskiene, the Lithuanian Prime Minister, takes a stroll in Westminster before talks with MPs yesterday. She is seeking Western support for her beleaguered republic

Euro-plane radar deal ends doubt

By Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent

THE four Nato countries involved in the development of the £20 billion European Fighter Aircraft programme confirmed the plane's future with the announcement yesterday of the long-awaited contract for the vital advanced radar system. It was awarded to a consortium led by the new merged company, GEC Ferranti Defence Systems.

The radar contract, which could eventually be worth up to £2 billion, was at the centre of one of the most controversial debates within the alliance in recent years. EFA is being built by Britain, West Germany, Italy and Spain.

There was intense rivalry over the two choices of radar, one produced by a Ferranti consortium and the other by a group headed by a West German company. As the row progressed, uncertainty grew over the aircraft, particularly in West Germany after the Cold War officially ended.

But yesterday's announcement that a £300 million radar development contract had been awarded to a consortium in which GEC Ferranti Defence Systems is the prime contractor appeared to put at rest fears that Bonn might opt out of the EFA programme.

Parliament, page 10

Worker's death halts tunnelling

By Michael Dynes, Transport Correspondent

WORK on the Channel Tunnel was brought to a halt yesterday after safety officials began an investigation into the death of a construction worker on Monday night — the sixth British fatality on the project in 18 months.

Mr William Cartman, aged 33, a married man from Washington, Tyne and Wear, died from head and chest injuries after being crushed by machinery at the face of marine running-tunnel north, below Shakespeare Cliff.

The accident occurred at 9.52pm and was immediately reported to the Health and Safety Executive by Transmanche Link (TML), the Anglo-French consortium which is building the tunnel.

Mr Cartman had been employed as a grouter on the project since October 1989, working at the cutting edge of one of the tunnel boring machines, where he was responsible for fixing into place the concrete segments which line the tunnel.

TML has been asked not to resume work until the cause of the accident has been established, and any recommendations made. It is thought to be the first time work has come to a complete stop after a fatal accident.

According to statistics collected by the HSE, there were

Estonia takes Latvian road towards independence

From Anatol Lieven, Riga

THE Estonian supreme soviet yesterday brought its republic into line with Latvia, strengthening the legal basis of Estonian independence and changing its name to the Estonian Republic, with the words "Soviet Socialist" left out. The laws were passed by a majority of 73 votes to 14, suggesting that many Russian and military opponents of independence stayed away.

After the vote the red banner was unceremoniously pulled down from the parliament building and the black, blue and white flag of the inter-war republic hoisted in its place. The law, however, provided that other Soviet symbols can remain in use during the unspecified "transition period" to de facto independence.

Following Latvia, the new laws provide for the restoration of the essential points of the 1937 constitution. These declare that "Estonia is an independent republic, where sovereignty resides in the people"; that the territory of the Estonian state is an integral whole; that only laws passed by Estonian institutions have validity in Estonia; and that "generally recognized rules of international law" apply in Estonia.

As in Latvia, apart from these key points, the existing Soviet constitution will remain in force, and the new laws stop short of explicitly cancelling Soviet authority.

The Estonian congress, which represents citizens of the inter-war republic and their descendants, has been claiming ultimate authority in matters of sovereignty and the constitution. Its leaders have declared in the past that the old flag and name should not be reintroduced until Estonia has achieved real independence or their meaning would be devalued. However, Latvia is believed to have urged the

leaders of congress to moderate their objections so that at least two of the three Baltic republics could adopt the same constitutional position as a basis for negotiations with Moscow.

Meanwhile, Baltic deputies to the Congress of People's Deputies in Moscow have been invited by the Kremlin to attend a meeting there tomorrow. It is not clear how many, if any, will respond to the invitation. The Latvians and Estonians are still undecided, while the Lithuanians, by their declaration of independence, ruled out deputies attending in their "official" capacity, though they might still go unofficially.

Large military parades will take place today in all three Baltic capitals to celebrate the 45th anniversary of the Soviet victory over Nazi Germany. The size of the crowds will be an important test of feeling in the Baltic.

● MOSCOW: President Gorbachev told senior Soviet officers and veterans in Moscow yesterday that the armed forces must be reformed and he rejected demands by retired military men for action against "anti-socialists".

"We are far from being satisfied with the current situation in the Army. And of course it also cannot be beyond the pale of criticism," he said in a speech at the Bolshoi Theatre marking the commemoration of victory over Nazi Germany.

● VILNIUS: Lieutenant-Colonel Valery Shorupov, deputy commander of the Soviet Army garrison in Vilnius, said yesterday that the Army might have to intervene in the rebel republic if tension there escalated. He urged President Gorbachev to take over running the republic from the Kremlin.

Gorbachev speech, page 11

Prince lauds Hungary

From Alan Hamilton, Budapest

THE Prince of Wales yesterday welcomed Hungary back into Western civilization, urging action to reverse what he called the ecological near-Armageddon which communism had brought to the East.

At the Karl Marx University, renamed the Budapest Institute of Economics, the Prince praised Hungarians for

retaining their spirit, culture and identity in adversity. He said the nation's soul had survived and was stronger than before. "It seems to me an extraordinarily brave and unique achievement," the Prince said, going on to deplore Hungary's post-war "amputation" from the West.

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Merseyside - The Quay to investment in the 90's

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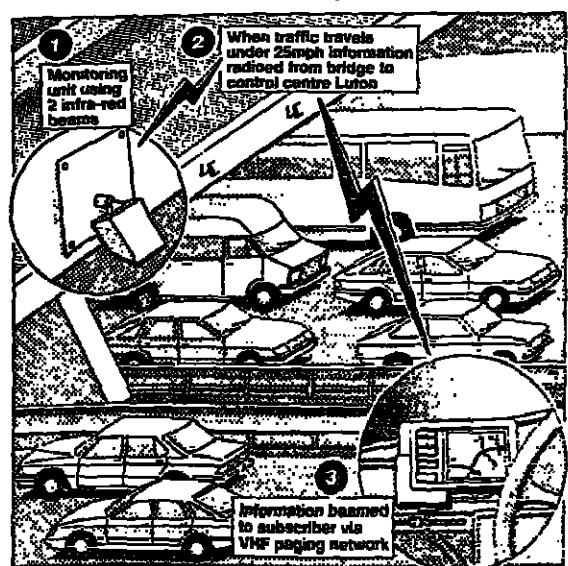
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Merseyside Development Corporation

The way ahead to beat motorway queues

By Nick Nuttall, Technology Correspondent



THE days of spending needless and frustrating hours trapped in a motorway traffic jam may be at an end. Britain's first commercially available, in-car traffic information system, capable of automatically alerting drivers with up-to-the-minute information on motorway congestion, receives its government operating licence today.

Called Trafficmaster, it represents the first fruit of the Road Traffic Drivers Information and Navigation Act 1989, which was promoted by Mr Paul Channon, the former Secretary of State for Transport. The system, which its developers claim may be the first commercially available one of

its kind in the world, gives motorists prior warning of traffic flows that have slowed down to crawling speeds.

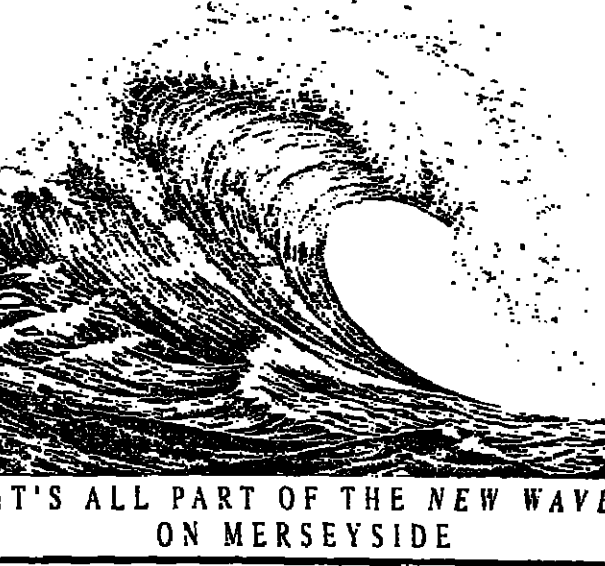
The instrument is portable, and can therefore allow office workers to pinpoint traffic jams and plot a route before they leave their workplace. Trafficmaster will allow motorists who leave the motorway for meals or services to have access to up-to-the-minute news of changing road conditions, and accordingly choose a trouble-free route ahead.

General Logistics of Luton, Bedfordshire, the developers of the system, expect it to be in operation by August. The system has been undergoing trials

on the M1 over the past year. At the heart of the technology is infra-red sensors mounted on motorway bridges, which send out two beams on to the lanes below. Mr David Martell, managing director of General Logistics, said: "The beams are set three metres apart so that, as a car passes through them it sends a pulse to a processor on the bridge."

If the traffic flow stays at or above 25 miles-per-hour, the system remains inactive. However, if car speeds drop below this threshold, a radio signal is sent to the company's control room computer, which is based at Luton airport.

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IT'S ALL PART OF THE NEW WAVE ON MERSEYSIDE

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Lords rebellion sets back reforms in community care

By Sheila Gunn and Jill Sherman

THE Government yesterday suffered a significant setback over its community care reforms after a successful Lords revolt calling for earmarked grants for local authorities for the care of the elderly and the mentally handicapped and other vulnerable groups.

The peers vote in favour of "ringfencing" community care budgets has the support of a strong body of Tory backbench MPs who believe it would convince councils that the Government's reforms will be backed up by additional funding for carrying out their new responsibilities.

Health and social service organizations were last night delighted by the Government's defeat claiming that the new clause in the NHS and

Community Care Bill, if supported in the Commons, would "safeguard community care".

Mr Kenneth Clarke, the Secretary of State for Health, held out against a similar attempt to "ringfence" the budgets during the Commons stages of the NHS and Community Care Bill.

It is understood that, while he had some sympathy for the initiative, the Treasury is strongly opposed to giving local councils annual earmarked grants for community care. Government sources predicted last night that Mr Clarke will be forced to come up with at least a compromise to satisfy Tory backbenchers in both the Commons and the Lords.

Lord Allen of Abbeydale, a former leading civil servant and independent peer, led the successful Lords revolt

arguing that it would oblige the Government to announce how much money would be available for community care.

With the rapidly growing costs of caring for the elderly, many peers and MPs fear that Mr Clarke's widely-welcomed reforms will not be backed up by Treasury funding. Lord Allen said that, without his amendment, the legislation's "admirable ambitions" could go sadly wrong. "It would ensure that the money intended for the most vulnerable people would reach its destination," he added.

The amendment was passed by 127 votes to 119.

A leading Tory social campaigner, Lady Faithfull, issued a warning that unless specific funds were earmarked for community care, councils would be tempted to divert them to other pur-

poses. The Association of Directors of Social Services said the vote in the Lords represented a significant breakthrough which, if supported in the Commons, would prevent money "leaking" into other local authority budgets once the community care reforms are implemented next April.

The association has been one of a number of organizations, together with the all party Social Services Select Committee, who have been pressing for a specific community care grant to cover all groups cared for in the community. The Government's White Paper on community care proposed earmarking money only for the mentally ill through a special grant linked to plans put forward by local authorities and agreed by health authorities.

Funds for the care of the elderly and

the mentally handicapped, however, were expected to be paid through the general revenue support grant or raised through the poll tax. The association argued that unless money for all care groups was earmarked, local authorities, under pressure to restrain spending in order to lower poll tax levels, would refuse to allocate enough money to social services departments.

A survey carried out by the association this year showed that 75 per cent of social services departments thought they would not have enough money to implement the community care reforms, mainly because of the Government's decision not to earmark funds.

A spokesman for the association said: "We are extremely pleased at the news. Assuming that it stands it would safeguard community care in the

future." Central government would also now have to specify spending levels for community care, revealing how much they were intending to transfer from the social security budget.

The spokesman suggested that the Government could compromise by agreeing to a specific grant linked to agreed plans similar to the mental illness grant. This was first suggested by Sir Roy Griffiths, the prime minister's adviser on health, but was dropped when the Government published its White Paper on community care.

The Royal College of Nursing said: "This is tremendous news for everyone concerned with care in the community. The Government must take heed of the strength of public and parliamentary opinion when this Bill returns to the Commons."

Police chief voices fears about vetting of criminal records

By Quentin Cowdry, Home Affairs Correspondent

A LEADING chief constable publicly questioned yesterday whether police should continue to maintain the national criminal record archive and to help to vet certain job applicants.

Mr Brian Johnson, chief constable of Lancashire, was speaking after the disclosure in *The Times* yesterday that the names of more than million job applicants are being passed through the police national computer each year to check for previous convictions.

Mr Johnson, chairman of the Association of Chief Police Officers' committee on the disclosure of convictions, said the enormous expansion in vetting since the mid-1980s was putting police under logistical and ethical pressure. Urgent action was needed to resolve the issue.

A growing number of policemen, he suggested, thought the solution lay in the creation of an agency, independent of the police, charged with maintaining criminal records and meeting vetting requests.

At present, the central archive of seven million criminal files is held by the National Identification Bureau (NIB) at Scotland Yard. Vetting is shared between the NIB and county forces.

Confessing that police were "absolutely beleaguered" with vetting requests from employers, mainly government departments and local authorities, Mr Johnson said: "The question comes down to this: are the police the best people to

say who should have this information and how much should be given out?"

The association, he emphasized, had yet to reach a conclusion, but he made clear it favoured the idea of police shedding responsibility for vetting and collating and maintaining records.

Mr Johnson did not doubt the police's ability to maintain records efficiently and with probity. But he claimed the difficulties police faced in acquiring data quickly from courts and the explosion in vetting meant the system was coming under intense strain.

He said: "What's happening now is that local authorities are trying to extend the checks they can legitimately ask for when appointing people to jobs offering substantial access to children. They now want taxi drivers to be included and people working with the elderly." The private security industry was also trying to enlist the police's

help in screening recruits. Concern about the issue was also voiced by Mr Colin Smith, chief constable of Thames Valley Police, who said few would question the wisdom of people such as teachers and social workers being vetted.

But he suggested that if checks were extended to individuals who had only casual contact with children in the course of their work, there would be a real danger of job opportunities being denied to ex-offenders.

"Society has to decide whether the access to children is such that that avenue of employment should be denied to an offender who genuinely wants to reform and re-integrate with the community," he said.

Jobs involving access to children are exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act, 1974, which allows many offences to become spent after fixed periods.

Mr Smith also shared Mr Johnson's doubts whether police should continue to maintain criminal records. Police, he said, were only one of the users of the records and had faced increased problems in collating data since the Crown Prosecution Service was set up.

The Commons' Home Affairs Select Committee has recommended that the NIB be replaced by an independent agency, accountable to Parliament.



Mr Brian Johnson: concern over vetting

Leading article, page 15

Power cut and crashes slow commuters



By Della Matthews

TRANSPORT disruption bedevilled rush-hour commuters returning to work in London yesterday after traffic lights and parts of the Underground system were affected by a serious power failure.

More than 300,000 Tube passengers were estimated to have been affected by the fault at the National Power supergrid sub-station at St John's Wood, north-west London. There was confusion on the Piccadilly and District

lines after signalling facilities were interrupted by the cut.

Road-users faced lengthy traffic jams in Westminster, Chelsea, Kensington, Paddington and the West End when computerized traffic lights put out of action. Although the power cut, which began at 6.50am, was over by 7.15am, road-users experienced problems for the next hour and Underground services were haphazard on the affected lines for much of the morning. "There has been bunching of trains which has caused residual delays and gaps in services," London Underground said. "Fortunately, by the time the peak period was under way, power had been restored and trains were beginning to get back to normal."

Most Tube trains kept moving because they use automatic

signals and their power supply is generated by London Underground. However, problems arose because some signalling and station services were powered by electricity from the national grid.

As a result, disruption at Earl's Court — the control room for both lines — reverberated down the District Line, which is London's busiest peak-time route, while Piccadilly Circus station was closed for two hours after escalators halted. The Richmond loop of the District line was closed for 30 minutes and Royal Oak and Maida Vale station power supplies were affected.

A London Electricity Board spokesman said he did not know the exact cause of the failure in the supply point at St John's Wood. The failure affected about 180,000 cus-

tomers and commuters were advised to use alternative routes.

The troubles were worsened by an accident blocking the eastbound elevated section of the M4 at Chiswick. There was a traffic tailback to the M25.

In another serious crash on the M25, a scrap metal dealer was killed when his truck was crushed under a 38-ton lorry. Three lorries and four cars were involved in the accident which blocked the northbound carriageway of the motorway near Dartford, Kent.

Firemen spent nearly three hours clearing the wreckage. Two women were trapped in cars and had to be cut free. They were taken by helicopter to hospital where one was said to be in an extremely serious condition.

Row over first aid for woman

A NURSE head-butted an ambulance man as they argued over who should treat a woman who had a heart attack in the street, a court was told yesterday.

Arthur Granger, aged 28, of Thackhall Street, Coventry, was given a three-month suspended jail sentence after admitting causing Mr Richard Endres actual bodily harm. He was also ordered to pay him £400 compensation.

Granger had been treating the woman, who later died, when Mr Endres arrived in response to a 999 call.

Murder inquiry

THE remains of Tina Bell, aged 18, who walked out of her home in Billingham, Cleveland, after an argument with her parents a year ago, have been found on wasteland near the house. A dog uncovered the skull, and a police search revealed other bones. A murder inquiry has been launched.

Charter slump

The number of charter flights from Gatwick airport during March fell by 21 per cent compared with last year, reflecting the decline in the demand for package holidays.

TV share limit

Independent television companies will not be allowed to hold more than a 20 per cent stake in the private company due to take over the Independent Broadcasting Authority's transmission operation, the Government announced last night. A similar restriction will apply to British Telecom.

Law student who assaulted pregnant women goes free

By Robin Stacey

A LAW student who sexually assaulted pregnant women walked free from court after claiming he had an "academic interest in gynaecology".

Jonathan Russell, the son of a magistrate, committed the offences at hospitals in Essex, Surrey, Berkshire and Hampshire, by dressing up in a doctor's style white shirt.

At Reading Magistrates' Court, in Berkshire, yesterday, he admitted five offences of indecent assault and a specimen charge of impersonating a registered general practitioner. Russell, of Longmill Lane, Crouch, Sevenoaks, was given a conditional discharge for two years and ordered to pay £30 prosecution costs. Russell

was caught after examining a pregnant housewife at Royal Berkshire Hospital, Reading, Mrs Pauline Bishop, for the prosecution, said.

Dressed like a doctor, he had lifted the woman's sweatshirt and had prodded her naked stomach. A porter, however, had grown suspicious and took the registration number of his car. At his home, police found three of the doctor-style shirts, complete with epaulettes and breast-pockets.

Mr Joe McDermott, for the defence, said that in spite of widespread inquiries, police had been unable to trace any of Russell's other victims.

After reading probation and psychiatric reports, Mr Frank Harris, chairman of the bench, said: "We note from reports you are prepared to seek psychiatric help and are therefore prepared to give you a two-year conditional discharge."

Icy ordeal

Wrangell, Alaska — A Swiss man said he was stranded for days with nothing but the clothes on his back, two lighters and a wallet after his homemade raft overturned in the icy Stikine River. He said he ignored warnings not to make the trip alone. (AP)

Tories are back on Ulster election trail

By Edward Gorman

THE first electoral campaign by the Conservative party in Northern Ireland for 70 years got under way in earnest yesterday with Northern Ireland Office ministers joining the campaign trail in the run-up to next week's by-election in Upper Bann.

Mr John Cope, Minister of State, said he was delighted to lend his support to Mrs Colette Jones, the Conservative candidate. "It is important for Northern Ireland to join again in the Westminster process," he said. He added that the voters of Upper Bann must begin to choose between the "main United Kingdom parties" over traditional Northern Ireland-based parties, in order to influence government decisions in Westminster.

The by-election in the strongly Unionist constituency will be held a week from tomorrow and follows the death in February of Mr Harold McCusker, the sitting MP who, at the last election, had a majority of over 17,000.

The result of the contest is regarded as a foregone conclusion, with Mr David Trimble, a Queen's University law lecturer, almost certain to retain the seat for the Ulster Unionist party.

In a wide field of 11 candidates, the performance of the Conservatives will be watched closely as a pointer to their prospects in an area of the province outside its mid-die class heartland in the north of Co Down. The decision by the Conservatives to organize in Northern Ireland was approved at the Party conference in Blackpool last October, but is still regarded ambivalently by a number of senior Tories, including Mr Peter Brooke, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland who, as chairman of the party, opposed it.

Last night, Mr Brooke was due to address the East Belfast Conservative Association — a meeting at which Mrs Jones was to be present and at which her campaign managers were hoping Mr Brooke would unequivocally endorse her

candidature. The opponents of organizing in the province hold that, by admitting Mrs Jones and her supporters to the party, they would be in a position to campaign against government policy on devolution and the Anglo-Irish Agreement from within party ranks.

In addition, the organization further complicates an already badly splintered political spectrum and could undermine attempts by a Conservative-run Northern Ireland office to portray itself as an "independent" honest broker between the parties in the search for a settlement.

Mr Trimble, an articulate, vigorous and abrasive exponent of Unionist insecurities, confidently expects Mrs Jones to lose her deposit. He is strong on law and order and advocates a limited form of devolution outside the framework of the Anglo-Irish Agreement, which he wants scrapped. The Labour party, which has resisted calls to organize in the province, is

facing the embarrassment of a candidate running on a "right to vote Labour" ticket, which yesterday won the support of Ms Kate Hoey, the Northern Ireland born MP.

Mr Charles Haughey, the Irish prime minister, yesterday appeared to dampen hopes of political progress in Northern Ireland, indicating that he could not contemplate either suspending the Anglo-Irish Conference or the Secretariat at Maryfield outside Belfast.

Mr Haughey told parliament in Dublin that he was keen to be as helpful as possible in assisting moves towards progress, but unionist demands for the dual suspensions were out of the question.

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MPs call for ban on drinking near football grounds

By Jamie Dettmer and Craig Seton

DRINKING alcohol should be banned outside soccer grounds on match days to prevent the kind of violence witnessed outside Bournemouth's Dean Court stadium at the weekend, Conservative MPs say.

The Home Secretary's statement to the Commons on the Bournemouth disorder fell short of reassuring some backbenchers about the effectiveness of the Government's clampdown on football hooliganism. "No-drinking zones" around grounds are seen by some Tory MPs as an effective way of preventing young fans from "fueling themselves into violent behaviour".

"The no drinking zone idea is an obvious example of a practical measure which the Government could apply very easily," Mr David Atkinson, Conservative MP for Bournemouth East, said.

Frontbench Labour spokesmen also believe such a measure could be useful. Mr Roy Hattersley, the shadow Home Secretary, argues that ministers have spent too much time studying the connections between drinking and public disorder and too little introducing measures to curb drunken violence.

Many of the 3,000 Leeds fans who rampaged through Bournemouth were seen drinking heavily before the disturbances started. At one point, some fans got a taxi to ferry beer to them from a local off-licence.

The "no-drinking zones"

proposal is modelled on experimental bans in seven towns, which were endorsed by the ministerial working group on alcohol abuse, an inter-departmental committee chaired by Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Deputy Prime Minister.

The bans apply mainly to town and city-centre precincts, car parks and some open spaces within designated areas. Under the by-law, the police can warn people outside pubs to stop drinking. If offenders refuse to do so, they can be prosecuted and fined up to £100. At least a hundred councils have said they would consider similar bans.

Coventry was the first to introduce the by-law as a result of the city's drink-related crime project - an initiative involving the city council, the police, chamber of commerce and licensees. The scheme has now been widened to include a regular police watch on public houses and is soon to be extended to off-licences.

Mr Rod Drew, the project chairman, said yesterday: "The by-law has really changed the atmosphere in the city centre. It used to be intimidating, with gangs of youths and winos walking about, but that has now all changed. We seem to have got rid of that problem."

Mr Drew said the pub watch scheme was also proving successful. That involved agreements with breweries and licensees to co-operate with unannounced visits by

police officers to public houses to catch under-age drinkers and customers causing trouble. Licensees were also involved in a "early warning" system under which one would tip off another that an unruly group of customers was in a particular area. Mr Drew said agreement had been reached on a watch system for off-licences, since it was felt that these were being used by under-age drinkers who had been deterred from entering the city's public houses.

Six people have been reported for prosecution since the introduction of the by-law, of whom three have been fined. Several dozen others have been warned. In Bath, police have issued 90 warnings since the ban was imposed in March last year, and prosecuted three offenders.

In spite of the effectiveness of the pilot scheme, the Home Office is keen to follow its original timetable for the experiment, which is designed to run until the summer of 1991, before encouraging other local authorities to introduce "no-drinking zones".

Mr Hattersley criticized the Home Office last night for its insistence on keeping to the timetable.

"Ministers talk tough, talk about initiatives, but never get down to doing anything," he said. "The 'no-drinking zone' proposal is a useful one but it is being hamstrung because of a timetable."

Leading article, page 15

How Brighton swept its lager louts off the streets

By Lin Jenkins

THE spectre of the summer of 1986 when police were pelted with stones and assaulted as battles raged through the streets, still hangs over Brighton police.

Evenings ended with armoured police vehicles in hot pursuit of a disorderly throng of drunken youths. The summer culminated in more appalling scenes when the free urban festival deteriorated into an excuse for drunken youths to run riot.

"There were lots of incidents. We simply did not have the manpower to tackle the symptoms, we had to get to the cause," Inspector Doug Simmonds, who heads the innovative Brighton police licensing unit, said.

Statistics collated from 9,000 arrests that year show that 61 per cent of those in custody for any reason had been drinking in the previous four hours. Of all public order offences, 98 per cent were alcohol-related, as were 73 per cent of criminal damage cases.

In a town with 740 licensed premises, three casinos and the capacity for up to 11,000 people to be drinking until 2 am, it appeared obvious that some licensees were willing to neglect their legal obligations.

The unit was formed with 11 men. The aim was to make publicans and licensees responsible for what happened later. Problem public houses

and clubs were targeted and licensees urged to put their own houses in order. If they refused, the police were prepared to revoke their licences.

Sergeant Digby Dunnis, who started on the unit at its inception, said: "We forged closer links with the publicans and the breweries. But it has always been a two-way thing. They can come to us if they have any problems. The unit always follows up if police have been called to an incident and discusses with the licensee what the problem is."

Inspector Simmonds insists the threat of revocation of licence is rarely used, although several clubs and pubs have been closed. "The threat of hanging does not prevent murder, we have to be diplomatic and helpful." That amounts to vetting potential licensees and asking breweries to change their choice if necessary. Many clubs and pubs have been persuaded to install closed-circuit television, remove pool tables and employ doormen. Where a premises comes under new ownership or is being revamped, the police work closely with the owners in deciding even how it should be laid out.

Drink-related crime is down 10 per cent at least and when Leeds played Brighton a few weeks ago, many pubs closed their doors and others em-

ployed doormen to keep out supporters bent on drinking too much.

The response from the trade to the police initiative has been positive. Mr Roy Skam, a Brighton licensee for 20 years and legal and licensing chairman of the local Licensed Victuallers Association said: "Publicans used to feel intimidated by the police, but now we meet them all the time, not just when they are checking on after-hours drinking."

Inspector Simmonds already sits on Alcohol Forum, a multi-agency approach to drink problems and how they can best be tackled. It has recently invited those from the brewing industry to join in an effort to identify joint initiatives to reduce the problems. Inspector Simmonds believes the police should not be handling juvenile drunks. There should be another agency to sober them up, assess the depth of their problem and refer them to somewhere which could help.

After prompting from the Home Office, the regional health authority has recently appointed an alcohol misuse coordinator. Much of the work he is to do will stem from Brighton police's unique research into alcohol-related crime and their pioneering approach to dealing with its most visible aspect, that of lager louts on the streets.



David Bellamy, the television environmentalist, sharing some of nature's wonder with Gloria Orozco, aged 10, when he launched the Natural Garden Schools Campaign yesterday at St John's school, Islington, north London. It is aimed at encouraging school environment projects

Plea for the destruction of 472-ton ivory stockpile

By Michael McCarthy, Environment Correspondent

THE Director of the Kenyan Wildlife Service, Dr Richard Leakey, yesterday called for the destruction of the 472-ton ivory stockpile in Hong Kong after its six-month exemption from the world-wide ivory trade ban runs out in July.

Dr Leakey, the forceful leader of Kenya's fight against ivory poachers, was speaking at a lunch in Broadcasting House in London to present the prizes in the £5,000 environment award organized by The Times and BBC Radio Four's evening news programme, PM.

"A lot of ivory has been stockpiled around the world and there is a lot of ivory still in Hong Kong, in Taiwan, and a lot of ivory has been moved to China," he said yesterday. "There is still a potential for the ivory trade to regenerate. At the moment we're not sure the way it's going. The British Government has allowed Hong Kong an extra six

months to dispose of its ivory and there still remains a great deal. I believe that by July 18, when the extension comes to an end, there will still be a lot of ivory in Hong Kong."

"I would like to appeal to the people of Britain to insist that the British Government not allow a further extension to the sale of that ivory. Let us destroy whatever stocks remain in Hong Kong and elsewhere after July 18."

The Foreign Office said last night: "An extension to the six months is just not contemplated. Ministers have said, and Hong Kong readily accepts, that they have six months, and that is it."

The question of what happens to the remaining stocks, however, is more equivocal. The latest revised estimate puts them at 472 tons, thought to be worth about £30 million. There would be problems for the Government if it wished

to organize a destruction of the Hong Kong stocks. Most of the ivory held in Hong Kong is in the hands of private owners, some of whom are expected to hold on to their stocks until the next meeting of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species, in the hope that limited trading may be reauthorized.

Dr Leakey praised the five finalists in The Times/PM award, saying: "I feel very strongly they epitomize the central issue in the struggle to make the world a better place: it is individual efforts and the expression of those efforts through the media, to make other people aware that their effort makes a difference."

He presented the award plaque and a cheque for £5,000 to Mr Ron Greer and the Loch Garry Tree Group, who wish to bring broad-leaved forest back to the bare Highlands of Scotland.

£2m Mayfair art robbery

By Robin Young

DETECTIVES were yesterday investigating the theft of art treasures worth about £2 million from a private collection in a house in South Audley Street, Mayfair, in the West End of London. Scotland Yard said the raid bore all the hallmarks of a professionally organized robbery commissioned by an art dealer or collector.

The haul included an oil painting on wood by the Florentine Mannerist Agnolo Bronzino, depicting a man with a black hat and a beard, said to be worth at least £500,000. The raiders also took Italian antiques from a collection built up by the owner, Mr Roberto Memmo, a wealthy Italian collector.

Other items stolen included

four bronze statues by Putti, two bronze horses, two bronze busts, a silver elephant surrounded by silver eggs, an Egyptian bronze statue with a solid gold base, and a silver cutlery set engraved with the motif Le Quattro Cento, the name of a Monaco club owned by Mr Memmo. The set is believed to be the only one of its kind in the country.

There were also paintings signed by Alfredo Delusi, an antique samurai ceremonial sword, a clock, porcelain candlesticks, and a complete service of white and gold Minton crockery. Police said yesterday that a van would have been required to remove everything taken from the house.

They are seeking two men

suspects, described as white males, aged between 20 and 30, who were seen near a white van in South Audley Street last Tuesday. Police said yesterday that the robbery had been carried out between April 25 and May 2 while Mr Memmo was out of the country.

Mr Memmo, who flew back to Italy on Monday, has asked for no personal publicity. He has, however, offered a £50,000 reward for the recovery of his treasures.

A new security alarm system was being installed at the house yesterday. Mr Memmo is said to have owned the South Audley Street house for 45 years, but also has homes in New York, Rome and Monte Carlo.

Elephants lose space trackers after mud bath

By Ruth Gledhill

ELEPHANTS taking vigorous mud baths are believed to be responsible for a last-minute hitch in an elephant satellite tracking project that will be unveiled at London Zoo today.

When the Queen switches on the final link to light up a screen charting the progress of a herd of elephants across Kenya, she will see the tracks of only one elephant. Two have dislodged their antennae, probably by rolling in the mud. Three transmitters are being built, with protective horns to shield the antennae.

Mr David Jones, director of zoo, said: "Elephants can submerge themselves in water for up to half an hour and then go for a roll in three feet of mud. It is pretty remarkable that it is working at all."

In the £300,000 three-year project, still in the experimental stage, three elephants in a herd on the Laikipia Plateau in central Kenya were sedated and fitted with a plastic-coated aerial attached to a collar, to transmit signals to a communications satellite passing overhead up to 10 times a day. Although all the elephants are transmitting local VHF signals, satellite signals are being received from just one.

London Zoo said: "We will keep just one track on the computer unless all three move off in different directions. To have three lines showing on the computer screen would be confusing." Miss Alexandra Dixon, the zoo's conservation officer, said: "We tried it out on female elephants at Whipsnade and it worked beautifully. We even put them under huge fire hydrant hoses. This is new technology. We thought there would be some problems." The 8 in antennae, attached to satellite signal

boxes on top of a collar made of industrial rubber, are kept in place by a counterweight. Signals reach London Zoo via a satellite station in Toulouse, France.

The project, sponsored by Burtel, the paper company, and the World Wide Fund for Nature, was initiated by the Gallman Memorial Foundation and is being run by London Zoo and the Kenyan Wildlife Services. It is using the Argos satellite system, which is used to locate shipping. The system has been used to track whales and French environmentalists hope to use it to track elephants moving up through central Africa into Chad. London Zoo is working on a similar system to track migrating cranes by satellite.

The African elephant population has fallen by half in the last 10 years to between 500,000 and 700,000. The number of elephants in Kenya, one of the worst hit areas, has declined by up to 90 per cent.

Scientists at London Zoo have begun work on a project to develop a contraceptive "pill" for elephants. They have collected research on the use of contraceptives in big cats, hoofed animals and ruminants. The "pill" will probably be a hormone implant placed under the skin in a slow-release material.

In some areas, like the Laikipia Plateau, home to 3,000 elephants, the population has increased as a result of conscientious landowners and is close to capacity. Refugee elephants have migrated from reserves still threatened by poachers.

Dr Richard Leakey, director of the Kenyan Wildlife Services, said culling would be inappropriate for political and environmental reasons.

Suicide MP left estate valued £3m

THE Conservative MP Mr John Heddle, who was said to have had financial problems when he committed suicide last December, left estate valued at £3,641,523, but only £12,420 net. The wide divergence between the values suggests that considerable debts were charged to his estate.

Mr Heddle, MP for Mid-Staffordshire, left his estate to his widow, Janet, and four children by his first marriage.

Probate was granted to Mr Roger Moate, Conservative MP for Faversham, and Mr Michael Walter, of Five Oaks Green, Tonbridge, Kent.

Mr Heddle's daughter, Miss Caroline Heddle, told an inquest in February that her father had been depressed, the financial problems and the pressure of work. He had a history of depression dating from the early 1970s and had attempted suicide before, she said.

Mr Heddle, a director of property companies and a Lloyd's underwriter, was said to have been affected by the slump in the housing market.

He was MP for Lichfield and Tamworth from 1979 to 1983, when he became MP for Mid-Staffordshire. His 14,650 majority at the 1987 general election was overturned by the Labour Party in the by-election brought about by his death.

The MP was found dead in his Jaguar car in a chalk pit near Canterbury, Kent, on December 19. A hosepipe had been linked to the exhaust.

Warning on executive rises

By Tim Jones, Employment Affairs Correspondent

THE Government was warned last night that its hopes of controlling wage-led inflation will fail if it continues to allow company directors to award themselves rises of up to five times the rate of inflation when the performance of their companies did not merit such increases.

The warning was delivered by Dr Marjorie Mowlam, MP for Redcar and Labour's spokeswoman on the City and corporate affairs. She published a research document showing that last year directors of the biggest UK corporations received increases far in excess of the performance of the shares of their companies.

She said the published company results show that directors and chairmen continue to pay themselves big increases

at a time when the Government is exhorting workers to moderate pay claims.

Mr Mowlam asked: "How can anyone expect industrial pay increases to stay below 10 per cent when directors continue to receive pay increases three, four or even five times the rate of inflation?"

"It is one thing for Mrs Thatcher or Sir Geoffrey Howe to say it is unacceptable for the directors to act in this way but unless they take a lead they cannot expect a different attitude from the workforce. British trade unionists would, no doubt, accept that top management should be paid if they have earned it by performance. These directors clearly have not done so."

The Institute of Directors said it was vital that top executives were paid competitive rates if they were to be retained. The institute had no argument against high pay awards as long as they were based on individual merit and not imposed by collective bargaining.

prosecution, told the court. A blood sample given at Chelsea police station showed he had 107 mg of alcohol in 100ml of blood, 27mg over the limit.

Towning, who works for the International Investment Corporation, told the court it was difficult to park in the square and from time to time residents moved each other's cars to make space.

On the night in question, he had popped into the house to get his car keys to move the Mercedes back for his neighbour to park in front of him.

Mr Nigel Widdowson, a shipping banker, said he had taken the Townings out to dinner that evening and drove them back to Wellington Square. He confirmed that Towning had only driven

to make space for his car. "He backed his car up two to three feet," said Mr Widdowson. "There was nothing about his manner of driving which gave me cause for concern."

Towning's barrister Mr Adam Greenwood, cited case law to show that the circumstances amounted to special reasons not to disqualify because of the very short distance driven. There had been no other danger to other road users and no damage caused.

After the hearing, Towning said: "The purpose of the law surely is to penalize people who are driving around drunk, not people who are carrying out a short manoeuvre in perfectly safe circumstances to assist somebody else."

D'Oyly Carte to move

By Craig Seton

THE D'Oyly Carte Opera is to move from London to a new home in Birmingham.

The company, Britain's leading Gilbert and Sullivan specialist, is to be based from January next year at Birmingham's Alexandra Theatre, which is to be refurbished by the city council.

Details of the move are to be announced officially next week. The D'Oyly Carte is the oldest established opera company in England and has faced serious financial problems in recent years.

From September, the Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet will be based at the city's Hippodrome Theatre and renamed the Birmingham Royal Ballet.

Leeds fan fined for police assault

SIX more Leeds United supporters appeared before Bournemouth magistrates yesterday charged with offences connected with the weekend's disorder.

Mark Gardiner, aged 28, a scaffolder, of Stoke Village, Plymouth, faced charges of using threatening behaviour and assaulting a policeman.

Miss Melanie Pliskin, for the prosecution, said that soccer fans ran amok in Bournemouth on Friday night. She said: "Gardiner threw a beer can at a police officer, striking him on the face. Fortunately, the officer did not receive serious injury."

Mr Alan Ponting, defending, said that Gardiner had travelled to Bournemouth to meet up with friends. He said: "Gardiner was not one of the hard-core football fans responsible for much of the violence. He just found himself in an extraordinary situation and over-reacted."

Gardiner was bound over for a year in the sum of £200, fined £100 for assault and ordered to pay £30 costs.

Gerald Rhoades, aged 20, a labourer, of Sissons Terrace, Leeds, appeared in custody charged with possessing an offensive weapon, a 6 ft plank, and elected for Crown Court trial. He was remanded on bail to June 26 with conditions of residence, that he does not attend an international or league football match and reports to police.

Russell Wade, aged 18, a

storeman, of Bramley, Leeds, appeared in custody charged with violent disorder. He was remanded on bail to June 26 with conditions of residence, reporting, and not attending matches in Britain or abroad.

Mark Snowden, aged 20, a labourer, of Sheffield Street, Scunthorpe, admitted possessing an offensive weapon and using threatening behaviour, and was remanded on bail until May 24, with conditions of reporting, residence and not attending football matches.

David Howden, aged 21, a signmaker, of Naburn Road, Leeds, appeared in custody charged with assault causing actual bodily harm. Howden, who admitted kicking a policeman, was remanded on bail until May 24 with conditions of residence, reporting, and not attending matches.

Paul Eyre, aged 17, a painter, of Dewsbury Road, Wakefield, who is accused of receiving stolen goods and destroying a motorcycle by fire was remanded on bail until July 3 with conditions of residence, reporting, and not attending football matches.

Nine football supporters involved in violent clashes associated with last weekend's Chesterfield v Grimsby Division Four match were yesterday fined and banned from attending matches in Britain and abroad for two years. The ban means the supporters, who admitted public order offences, will not be allowed to go to Italy for next month's World Cup.

Family link in cancers

By Thomson Prentice Science Correspondent

SOME women and their children appear more vulnerable to various forms of cancer because of risk factors within their families, researchers have found.

Doctors believe that in such families, there is a link between the development of breast cancer in the mother before her menopause and the onset of rare tumours in one or more of her infants. The risk to the woman seems to increase if she has her first baby relatively late in life, and if the affected child is born after all or most of her other children.

The findings were made by Dr Jillian Birch and colleagues at Manchester University and the Christie Hospital and Holt Radium Institute in Manchester, in a project funded by the Cancer Research Campaign.

"Our research suggests that these events are not independent, and that interactions between genetic and other factors may be important," Dr Birch said yesterday.

Studies of affected families have enabled women at high risk of breast cancer to be identified for early screening, thus improving their chances of survival, Dr Birch said. And more investigations of cancer family syndromes might provide insights into the underlying mechanisms responsible for the development of common cancers, such as cancer of the breast.

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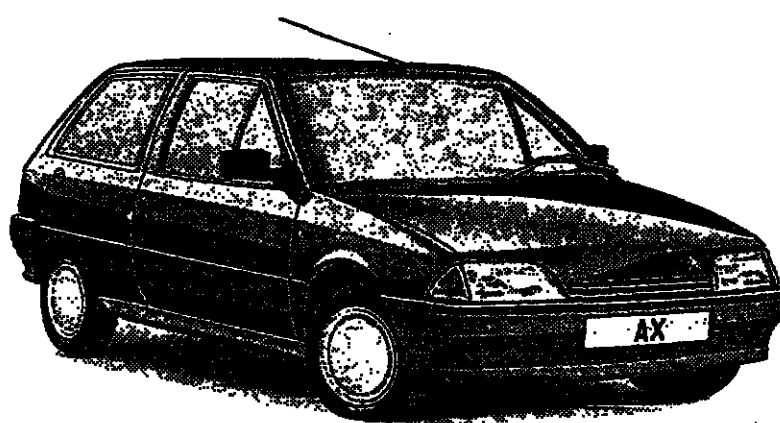
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Councils fight to reclaim water companies' assets

By Mark Souster

FIFTEEN councils that have issued writs against the newly-privatized water companies and their predecessor authorities, claiming compensation for the loss of an estimated £3.25 billion of assets, are confident their action will proceed in spite of the Treasury Solicitor's application for it to be struck out as being vexatious and frivolous.

That hearing begins at the High Court on Monday and is expected to last a week with judgement reserved. If the application fails, as the authorities expect, the full

hearing will start early next year, barring any appeal. Mr John Kingston, of Travers Smith Braithwaite, solicitors for the plaintiffs said yesterday that the case was unprecedented. The authorities were confident they had a strong case but would appeal against an unfavourable ruling.

The authorities — which include Birmingham, Manchester and Sheffield — have issued 17 writs claiming either compensation for the loss of assets which belonged to them until 1974 when regional water authorities came into being. They argue that ownership of the assets was not transferred in 1974,

merely their control, and that once no longer required for water or sewerage purposes, the proceeds of any sale should belong to the municipality that originally owned them.

If that argument fails, the authorities say it is only logical to assume that ownership was transferred and that local authorities are therefore entitled to compensation under the Land Clauses Act, 1845.

The Government insists that the 1974 Act transferred ownership as well as responsibility and that the water companies are not liable. The Department of the Environment refused to comment on

speculation about possible compensation payments before the case reaches court.

The legal action originates from 1986 when water privatization was first mooted. It was dropped when the Government shelved the plan before the 1987 General Election, but was revived once the proposals were reactivated. To avoid postponing the industry's flotation, the Government gave the authorities open-ended indemnity; the Treasury Solicitor therefore took over the defence.

Manchester City Council alone is claiming almost £1.2 billion from North West Water Ltd and

the North West Water Authority. Mrs Hazel Bears, the authority's principal solicitor, said yesterday that several commercial developments were planned in the Manchester area, including one whose details would be announced early next month. North West Water has also considered selling 7,000 acres of land in the Lake District formerly owned by the council.

Birmingham City Council is claiming £694 million, from the Welsh Water and Severn Trent and Kingston upon Hull, £226 million from Yorkshire.

The 15 authorities taking action

are: Birmingham City Council, Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council, Epsom and Ewell District Council, Exeter City Council, Hastings Borough Council, Kingston-upon-Hull City Council, Kirklees Metropolitan Borough Council, Manchester City Council, Newport Borough Council, Norwich City Council, Nottingham City Council, Sheffield City Council, Southampton City Council, Thamesdown Borough Council and Wolverhampton Metropolitan Council.

If the actions succeed, similar cases by most English and Welsh metropolitan and shire districts could follow.

Solicitors training proposals reworked

By Frances Gibb

LAW Society proposals to overhaul the training of solicitors have been modified to meet widespread criticisms before they come before a special meeting of the society council for approval this month.

The proposals to replace the fact-based course with a shorter, skills-based legal practice course, have provoked intense criticism from bodies ranging from The College of Law to City firms of solicitors. There is particular opposition to scrapping the centrally-set finals examination and allowing academic institutions to set their own examinations.

Now the original options have been revamped. The Law Society training committee's revised consultation paper will outline safeguards to ensure national consistency and to control the standards of the final examinations.

The teaching and content of examinations would have to be approved by the Law Society. Special authorization teams of law practitioners and academics would be attached to each institution running the new course, and they would be responsible for monitoring standards, both of the examination itself, and of the students.

Instead of a 24-week course, the revised paper to come before the council meeting on May 17 will emphasize that the new course should be a minimum of 24 teaching weeks. That means that in many cases the course will still last a year, as at present. The College of Law had said the original proposal would reduce the training period by 35 to 40 per cent.

The shift in emphasis to a more skills-based course has been retained, but with some changes to ensure that more substantive law would be included in the course.

Finally, the target date for the changes to be put into effect has been put back from September next year to September, 1993.

Solicitors accept that the present course involves too much fact cramming; fails to teach skills needed in daily practice and is long, compared with other professions such as accountants. It also debars part-time study, as the course is available only on a full-time basis.

Critics of proposals for the new scheme, however, have argued they will lead to a lowering of standards.

After the vocational training course, the society proposes a revamped period of training in practice under a contract in place of the old "articles". Trainees, as they would be called instead of articled clerks, would serve some 18 months instead of the present two years.

The proposals for changing the training scheme have been put to the society council before when, after heated debate, they were sent back for re-working by a special committee.

Tory MPs 'dominate' Commons TV reports

By Sheila Ginn, Political Reporter

CONSERVATIVE politicians are dominating televised coverage of the House of Commons while MPs in the minor parties appear rarely on screen, according to a study by Leeds University for the Commons.

Professor Jay Blumler, one of the authors of the study, attributed the trend to the confrontations faced by ministers since televising began last autumn. He said: "If we can think of a dominant or running central story throughout the period it has been a government under challenge and sometimes under threat. In such circumstances it would be natural for news people to be particularly interested in how people are responding to such a threat."

The report, commissioned by the Commons select committee on televising the proceedings, said: "Conservatives typically attracted more coverage than did Labour speakers. Parliamentary television was decidedly binary, paying relatively little attention to Liberal Democrat members and other party MPs."

The Conservative Party made 3,873 contributions which were broadcast compared to 2,838 for all the other parties put together. Tories also received more than 50 per cent of the broadcast time on most occasions when MPs appeared on a television news item. Labour, by comparison, received 35 per cent; Liberal Democrats 12.6 per cent; and Social Democrats 5.3 per cent.

However, backbench MPs' fears that they would be ignored by broadcasters have proved unfounded, the study said. Between a quarter and a third of "political actors" featured on national news programmes came from the backbenches with the percentage rising to an average of 60 per cent on the BBC's regional weekly programmes.

Among Labour's backbench stars are Mr Dennis Skinner and Mr Tony Banks. The authors say, however, that while they had noted Mr

Edward Heath, Mr Michael Heseltine, Mr Nigel Lawson and Mr Norman Tebbit, four leading Conservatives, as being four backbenchers worth following, none of the four have featured prominently in news coverage.

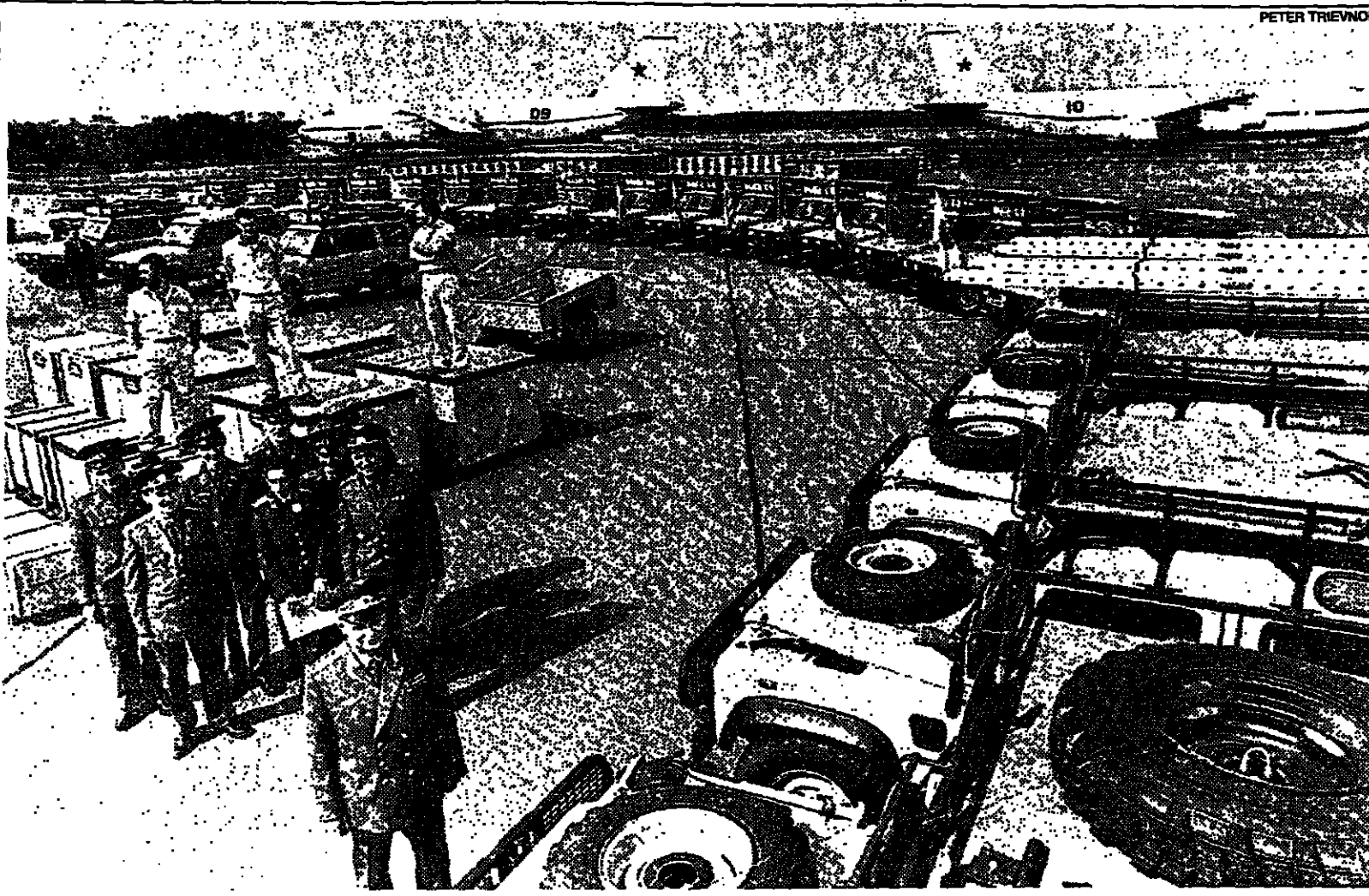
Two backbench MPs who have proved unexpectedly popular with broadcasters are Mr Frank Haynes, Labour MP for Ashfield, and the Tory MP Sir Bernard Braine, father of the House. While the report praises broadcasters' portrayal of MPs at work, Professor Blumler said that it might be because Parliament has not yet sanctioned their permanent presence in the Chamber.

He said: "Broadcasters seem to have pulled out all the stops to do justice to the Commons. It is hard to find a single criteria on which their record and performance can be seriously faulted."

Their performance so far was open to two interpretations: either it was because the broadcasters could at last do the job they were best equipped to do; or they were on their "best behaviour" during the televising experiment. "It will be important to see whether this kind of balanced record is sustained."

The admission of cameras to the Commons has "virtually eclipsed" televised coverage of the House of Lords, the study found. Lords' reports amounted to only one per cent of all Westminster news stories. However, Sky television is to launch a weekly programme devoted entirely to the work of the Lords.

The television companies reflected a broad spectrum of political views and topics, the report said. "Parliamentary television was nowhere more merely a 'Neil and Maggie Show'." Even in the national news programmes, where emphasis on the two leaders was heaviest, it reached at most 28 per cent of all parliamentary "actors" featured (in ITN's *News at Ten*, falling to 18 per cent in the BBC's *Nine O'Clock News*).



Soviet aircrew and their two military Antonov 124s at Farnborough yesterday with the 34 Landrovers and crates of spares and provisions they will fly to Siberia for the Camel Trophy, a 16-nation motor racing event. It is the first time that Antonov 124s, the largest operational aircraft in the world, have visited Britain in military markings. The rally starts in Bratsk on June 6 and covers 1,000 miles of forest track.

£50 blast seen as ideal way to eliminate tank surplus

By Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent

THE Army demonstrated yesterday that when it comes to destroying tanks by "peaceful" means, it may have the perfect answer.

With about 4,000 Nato battle tanks to be assigned to the scrapheap under the proposed Conventional Forces in Europe (CFE) treaty, Ministry of Defence researchers believe that a small concentration of special explosives planted inside a tank at certain spots will have the desired effect.

Yesterday, a Centurion tank was duly "rendered militarily useless" at a demonstration of the implosion method at the MoD's Proof and Experimental Range, at Shoeburyness, Essex.

Lt Col Billy Bowles, an explosives expert, said that a 30-ton tank could be damaged "beyond economical repair" by the British method for just £50. Charges were placed inside and outside the tank,

between the hull and the turret and also beside the barrel. The destruction was "quick, cheap and tidy", an Army spokesman said.

One of the trickiest practical problems facing the 23 countries in the CFE negotiations is finding suitable ways of crippling a tank so that it can be shown to have no military use. The British method, which causes major structural damage to the hull and turret of a tank, but leaves enough for the scrap metal man, is to be demonstrated in a technical video to be shown to negotiators at the CFE talks in Vienna.

Cruise and Pershing missiles destroyed under the Intermediate Nuclear Forces Treaty have mostly been cut up. However, tanks are designed for indestructibility.

An MoD official said: "Under the CFE agreement, we will have to be able to show that a certain number of tanks

have been destroyed in a set period. It will be no good informing the Russians that we have delivered 100 tanks to a scrapyard to be dealt with at some later date."

A tank damaged by implosion could be sent for scrap, its scrap value maintained.

Under the CFE agreement, which both sides hope to sign later this year — although this is beginning to look less likely — Nato will have to destroy about 4,000 tanks to reduce its stock in Europe to the specified limit of 20,000. The Soviet Union will have to destroy about 40,000.

Other suggested means of tank "destruction" from negotiators have included burying them (a Western idea) and dumping them at sea (a Soviet Union suggestion seen as environmentally unfriendly). The East Germans estimate that it takes them 350 man hours to melt down a tank.

Ban on dumping explosives at sea

By Richard Ford, Political Correspondent

EXPLOSIVES will no longer be dumped at sea in Scotland, MPs were told yesterday after the discovery by fishermen of explosives and detonators.

Mr Ian Lang, Minister of State at the Scottish Office, said reports suggested that fishermen had lifted explosives up to 18 miles from the site of a dump at Birch Point in the Firth of Clyde, which had been used until last year by ICI's Nobel Division.

The company was the only holder of a licence to dispose of industrial waste at sea in Scotland, and that licence had not been renewed last August.

Mr Lang said in his emergency statement to the Commons that dumping detonators at sea had been banned since 1984. He added that there was no evidence of any infringement of the stringent requirements laid down for the dumping of industrial waste, though he could not give a

guarantee that no unauthorized dumping had taken place. Until a full investigation had been carried out, it would not be possible to say how the material had come to be outside the dump site, which was half a mile wide and 75 fathoms deep.

Navy experts blew up four First World War bombs found at low tide on a busy beach at Calshot, Hampshire, yesterday. The British-made bombs are believed to have been washed up by rough seas in the January storms.

A sunken stash of live ammunition has been found by a swimmer off Weymouth beach, Dorset. A team of divers from the bomb and mine disposal squad was called in to deal with more than 600 rounds of Second World War rifle ammunition, believed to have come from two sunken American destroyers.

Ex-boxing champion in court

Commitment proceedings began yesterday against Terry Marsh, the former world welterweight boxing champion who is charged with attempting to murder Mr Frank Warren, his former manager. Mr Marsh, of Basildon, Essex, who appeared at Barking Magistrates' Court, was also accused of possessing 10 rounds of ammunition without a firearms certificate. Reporting restrictions were not lifted.

Bad taste

Water supplies to as many as 50,000 people in Cornwall have been contaminated with chloramine, which tastes like disinfectant, because of algae at Suihians Reservoir. South West Water said, however, that it was safe to drink.

In the swim

Swimmers who compete in nude swimming galas are to be allowed to take part in events held under the name of the Amateur Swimming Association after pressure from the Central Council for British Natism. They will have to wear costumes, however.

Horse ban

Steeplechasing at gymkhanas and fairs held on land owned by Derbyshire county council is to be banned to remove any danger to horses.

Falling short

M. Didier Mazot, a French hang-glider pilot, was rescued by lifeboat after he ditched in the sea only 100 yards after jumping off cliffs at Folkestone, Kent, yesterday.

BT praises callers who fell into line

By Ray Clancy

BRITISH businesses passed the great London code change test yesterday with top marks. The first working day since the new dialling codes came into use produced no large-scale problems.

International callers also coped well with the change-over from 01 to 071 for central London and to 081 for outer areas. There had been worries that a quarter of businesses would not be ready for the biggest overhaul of London's dialling codes in 25 years, but British Telecom said it was delighted with the smooth changeover.

The volume of misdialed numbers varied from two to 20 per cent of the 20 million calls in the average working day. The British Telecom computer was never stretched to its top capacity of 50,000 recorded announcements a

minute to tell people that they had dialled the wrong number. "Most businesses have taken the change in their stride. Even international calls have been okay," a spokesman for British Telecom said.

The Confederation of British Industry said that none of its members had reported any problems. Guardian Royal Exchange, one of the country's largest insurance and investment companies, which has contacts with 80 nations worldwide, said its four operators, who deal with an average of 4,000 calls a day, had had no problems. "It has been a non-event. The predicted chaos has not materialized."

During the £30 million, two-year operation to usher in the change, British Telecom alerted state telecommunication operators throughout the world to the change in codes.

Pop art sets £3.6m record

By Sarah Jane Checkland, Art Market Correspondent

CHRISTIE'S achieved a record for pop art in New York when Roy Lichtenstein's "Kiss II" — an image of embrace lifted from a cartoon strip in 1962 — sold for \$6 million (£3.6 million). It was bought by the Fuji Gallery of Japan on behalf of an industrialist named Mr Wanibuchi.

The sale included 10 records for individual artists, including Jean Dubuffet. His "Pese Cheveu", from his Paris Circus series, sold for £3 million (double estimate). There were a number of casualties, however, fueling fears that the racing contemporary market has slowed. Out of 77 lots, 26 went unsold.

The world's most expensive sculpture at auction looks likely to go abroad. The bronze "Dancing Faun" by the Dutch Mannerist Adrien de Vries, fetched £6.8 million at Sotheby's in London in December after it was discovered in a garden. It was saved

from being offered at a minor sale when Miss Elizabeth Wilson, Sotheby's expert, spotted it in the catalogue. Mr Cyril Humphris, the London dealer, bought it then raised its value to £7.1 million and applied for an export license. He said yesterday that, after a two-month stop, Mr Richard Luce, Minister for the Arts, has promised a licence, as no museum buyers have come forward. He is considering taking the sculpture to the Tokyo 90 art fair.



"Kiss II", bought for a Japanese industrialist

Bunker Hunts sell art collections

By Our Art Market Correspondent

NELSON and William Herbert Bunker Hunt, the Texan brothers who saw their father's oil fortune vanish after their massive speculation into silver, were in London yesterday, promoting the sale of their art collections.

The hoard of ancient coins, Greek vases and ancient bronzes are expected to raise \$20 million (£12 million) for the brothers who, in the words of one biographer, have overseen "the most monumental financial reversal in modern business history".

Nelson's collection includes 3,000 gold, silver and bronze coins spanning more than a thousand years of ancient history. One highlight is a denarius coin struck by Brutus to celebrate his assassination of Julius Caesar on March 15, 44 BC (estimate \$25 to \$40,000).

There is also a complete set of Athenian dekadachms, the largest coinage at the time. One contains a picture of the goddess Athena on one side, and her owl, denoting wisdom on the other.

One of only 20 known to exist, it is worth up to \$50,000. The whole group is estimated at \$2 million. Mr Nelson Bunker Hunt says he amassed his collection in the 1970s, "because I like Greek and Roman history". It also happened to be around the time he was speculating in silver.

Initially the price shot up from \$6 an ounce to \$50 in less than a year. In the opening months of 1980, however, the price began to slide.

By 1986 a total of 23 banks were trying to foreclose on the Hunt's remaining assets — oil, gas and property. Hunt also lost his famous stable of 500 thoroughbred horses.

After bankruptcy proceedings in December last year, Nelson Bunker Hunt was said to have been left with nothing but his home, two ageing cars and personal belongings. The family fortune was made by Harold Lafayette Hunt, the oil tycoon who died in 1975 worth an estimated \$10 billion and said then to be "the richest man in the world".

A professional gambler nicknamed "Arkansas Slim", he started in oil by forming a partnership with a man called "Dad" Joiner, who discovered the field, and insisted afterwards that he had been cheated.

The Bunker Hunt collections will be dispersed in three sales, in June and December this year.

Building delay halts Royal College of Art expansion scheme

By Simon Tait, Arts Correspondent

THE expansion plans geared towards making the Royal College of Art Europe's premier design school have received a double setback. Mr Jocelyn Stevens, rector of the college, said yesterday.

He disclosed that the 42 students of the college's painting school would have nowhere to go after August 31, when they leave their accommodation in the Victoria and Albert Museum because building work on the new £14 million building that is to house the new studios has fallen behind, effectively by a whole academic year.

"We have searched and searched and have found nowhere. It's getting

desperate. We asked the V&A for an extension of the original July 31 deadline and they gave us a month, no more," Mr Stevens said.

The studio space within the museum block on the other side of Exhibition Road in South Kensington, which has been occupied by the painters for more than a century, was ceded to the V&A in the 1970s and is urgently needed by the museum for office accommodation.

Mr Stevens also revealed that a £1.5 million plan to move the sculpture school and part of the film school to Clapham had been blocked by Lambeth council. The two schools presently occupy land in Queens Gate, south of the main college, which is to come into the ownership of the Science and Natural

History Museums. The museums have their own development proposals for the land, and the RCA has guaranteed occupation only until July 1991.

An electrical factory costing £1 million and covering more than 40,000 acres in North Road, Clapham, has been selected as the ideal site for both the sculptors and a full-size location studio for the film school, but Lambeth council has so far refused to sanction the change of use from light industrial to educational. Another £500,000 would be needed for refurbishment and fitting out.

"We're still negotiating, but that is the council's position," said Mr Stevens. If negotiations are successful, however, the college is to launch

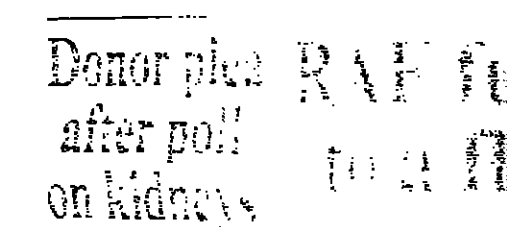
its first appeal for many years to raise the £1.5 million.

When the £23 million development scheme, including the £14 million building programme, for the college in Jays Mews, South Kensington, was launched four years ago, it was planned to leave the sculpture school in the iron huts where had Henry Moore trained.

Last year, however, it became clear that the site, and that of the film school adjacent, would be required by the new owners once the museums took over the freehold from the Property Services Agency.

The timing of the painting school's move depended on the building schedule keeping up to date to match the V&A's requirements, but building, scheduled to be finished this summer, has fallen behind by 30 weeks, which effectively means the accommodation cannot be available in the 1990-91 academic year. Other departments will remain in their existing places of work.

Last year, the college introduced self-determined fees, the first university to do so, and this year they are to go up from £2,000 a year to £2,500, and £6,900 for foreign students. "We need to attain a level of excellence to attract students who are willing to pay our fees. They are going up by 25 per cent because, frankly, we need the money for improvements, but the money to move to Clapham will have to come from an appeal, initially to alumni of the school," Mr Stevens said.



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Festival

The Festival of Year 7 themes at the Pacific Arts Centre, Auckland.

Both year 7 and year 8 pupils participated given the theme of "Homecoming". Most pupils came from this centre.

The festival was held in two parts and tickets were sold during the Easter holidays.

Australia, Zealandia, Dunedin.

By Tom Giles

Mrs Lamplugh: Appalled at treatment of offenders

The series of incidents began in Sheffield on January 30 when two women posted social workers examined a young child in a rooming house after asking the mother to come to the police station. Several days later one of the women returned with a man, and said they wanted warrants to take the child into care. They left after the mother challenged authority.

Mrs Lamplugh: Appalled at treatment of offenders

By Thomson Prentice
Correspondent

About 3,850 patients receiving dialysis treatment while waiting, sometime years, for a transplant, about 100 of them died a month she said.

planted, with the public encouraged to buy a commemorative plot. In June, a Britain Air Show will re-air a Spitfire scramble, and

Mr Golightly left his over the affair, and £10,000 was wiped off the value of the share issue of Mr Yocum's company after his arrest.

Mr Golightly left his
over the affair, and £10
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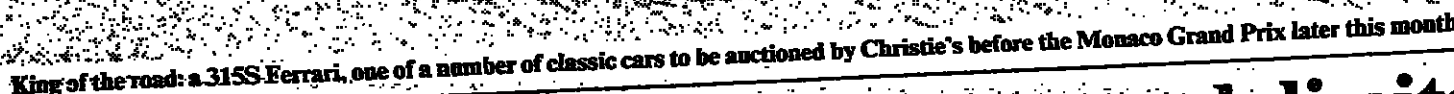
By Kerry Gill

The festival will also begin its two-year focus on the arts and culture of countries bordering the Pacific, including Korea, New Zealand, Japan, Australia and the western seaboard of America. McDunlop said that the Pacific

The festival, which will cost £3.5 million to stage, has

Kenneth Branagh's Renaissance Theatre Company will begin its final run of *Midsummer Night's Dream* and *King Lear* in Edinburgh a week before the festival starts.

Richer festival, page 18



By Kerry Gill

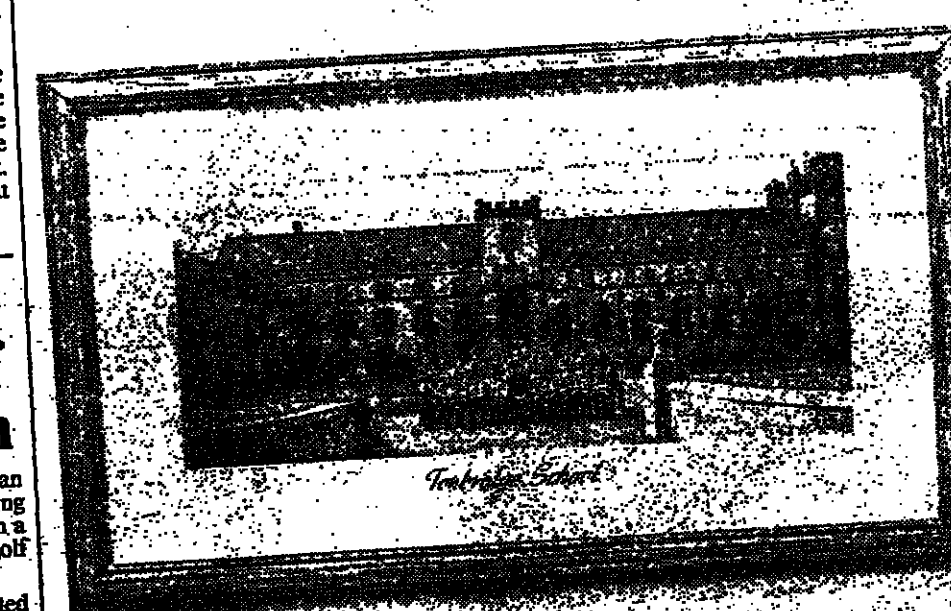
Mr Robert Allan, chief executive of the Scottish Fishermen's Federation, emerged from talks with Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Secretary of State for Scotland.

The Government has refused, however, to con-

The Government had been

although the volume has gone down. At the end of the day, a fisherman's income depends on the value of what he has

vessels caught 85 per cent of the fish because of their size and relative sophistication



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Prison officers vote for industrial action at tense modern jail

PRISON officers at one of the country's newest and most secure maximum security jails have voted to take industrial action over staff shortages, their union said yesterday.

Members of the Prison Officers' Association at Full Sutton Prison, York, claim they are 34 officers short in a jail where tension among inmates threatened a full-scale riot.

In the past fortnight a wing of the jail has been cleared for fear of rioting. Eighty prisoners were sent to other jails, including Walton Prison, Liverpool, where members of the officers' association are also threatening action. Five hundred staff at Liverpool are refusing to accept disruptive inmates from other prisons.

The association said that the disputes were just two of many. Members at overcrowded jails in London were continuing to lock out new prisoners in a dispute over allowances. Members are scheduled to vote in a national ballot on action over staffing levels and overcrowding.

Mr Stuart Wilde, the association's secretary at Full Sutton, said staff were also unhappy that five remand prisoners transferred from Strangeways were being held

at Full Sutton. One of the five, aged 20, was in the segregation wing with Rule 43 prisoners. Mr Wilde said: "Remand prisoners are innocent until proved guilty. I would suggest we should not have any remand prisoners at all in a maximum security prison. To have a 20-year-old locked up with Rule 43 prisoners is definitely wrong."

Full Sutton, opened in September 1987 to house 444 Category B long-term maximum security prisoners, is a model jail with ensuite toilet facilities in each single cell. There is no overcrowding.

Mr Grenville Lomax, chairman of the association's branch at Walton, said officers there had decided to continue working normally with the present prison population - 1,350 inmates in a jail with certified accommodation for 930. "We will take all prisoners from our catchment area but exclude purely those prisoners who are disruptive from other prisons and those sentenced from outside our catchment area."

He accused the Home Office of disregarding the problems the prison faced. The final straw had come a week ago when Liverpool received

20 long-term prisoners from Full Sutton.

The Home Office denied there was a staffing shortage at Full Sutton. Levels had been agreed and were being maintained, a spokesman said. Dispersal of Strangeways prisoners and others considered to be troublemakers was an "operational matter for the prison service".

The remand prisoner being held in the segregation unit at Full Sutton would be kept separate from Rule 43 inmates, he said.

Two inmates from Gloucester Prison escaped yesterday when nine men being transported to Hereford attacked four officers escorting them. One guard suffered facial injuries. Mr John Allridge, the prison governor, said the escape had clearly been well planned. "The coach slowed down for some roadworks and the men rose up and attacked the officers," he said. Seven of the men, who were all handcuffed, were recaptured during the scuffle.

Both men were on remand on burglary charges and were on their way to appear at court. The incident happened at Fownhope, on the Ross-on-Wye to Hereford road.

Handicap boy walks tall after therapy

By Craig Seton

RICHARD and Helen Sanders have a video to treasure. Taken on Friday, it shows their son Howard, aged six, walking unaided for the first time and calling to his parents: "Look at me!"

Howard has cerebral palsy and began to walk first with sticks and then by himself after more than a year's intensive mobility therapy at the Birmingham Institute for Conductive Education. The institute uses the methods pioneered by the Peto Institute in Hungary where handicapped and brain damaged children are taught brain-limb co-ordination through a tough, but rewarding, regime of physiotherapy.

The Peto's methods are renowned worldwide and some of its teachers were among those who have helped Howard. Teachers from Birmingham are being trained in Hungary.

Mr Sanders, aged 38, a company director of Pittingham, Staffordshire, said yesterday that until Howard began to walk with the aid of sticks in January he was able only to crawl. "On Friday, we were all playing in the garden. Howard had been on the climbing frame with his young



'Look at me!': Howard taking some of his first steps, unaided, towards the outstretched arms of his father

ger sister Mackenzie when he suddenly said: 'Look at me.' Howard was walking totally unaided. "We were flabbergasted."

Mr Sanders was using his new video camera and was able to record the "gift" of his

son's first steps. Howard has since walked unaided for a short time each day and is becoming stronger.

Mr Sanders said that at one time the likely prospect was that Howard would either have to have surgery to help

him walk or be confined to a wheelchair. However, Mr Sanders and his wife refused to consider the possibility of surgery, fearful that, if Howard began using a wheelchair, he would never have been able to give it up. Mr Sanders said:

"The turning point was when he used the sticks to get around by himself. It changed our lives radically because he could go from one room to another without help. Now he has walked unaided. It is a wonderful gift."

Please help the children of Ceausescu.

The sight is sickening and terrifying.

In crib after crib lie babies and

toddlers who look like old people,

their skin shrivelled, their skeletal

faces bearing the unmistakable

mark of approaching death. These

pitiful children at a clinic in Bucha-

rest are AIDS patients, the tiniest

victims of the brutal, backward re-

gime of Romania's fallen dictator,

Nicolae Ceausescu.

TIME MAGAZINE 19.2.90.

This is just one aspect of the gruesome legacy of Ceausescu's years of misrule.

Contraception, abortion and sex education were outlawed in Romania in a desperate attempt to boost the workforce.



It resulted in thousands of unwanted children, abandoned by parents who could see no way of supporting them in a country where food of any description was already dreadfully scarce.

Vast numbers of the children now crammed into Romania's 205 orphanages are the survivors of back street operations.

Many are severely handicapped

and live in conditions of appalling squalor. Most pitiful of all among these tragic children are those under the age of six who number around 14,000 spread throughout sixty-four orphanages.

(It is estimated that one in four of these children is dying of AIDS.)

There is simply not enough food available to feed any of the children adequately and most suffer from severe malnutrition.

Standards of hygiene are pathetically low due to a lack of proper equipment and facilities.

There is a chronic shortage of staff. By day, there are just four or five nurses for every 100 children and only one doctor and one psychiatrist for every 150-200 children in the orphanages. By night, there are even fewer staff on duty.

attended in their own excrement. The most severe cases are kept naked because naked bodies are easier to clean.

How you can help right now.

The Romanian Orphanage Trust was set up by Mary Gibson, a Dorset grandmother, who was so appalled by what she witnessed on a visit to a Romanian orphanage that she vowed to raise £10,000,000 to help ease the suffering and put an end to the misery.

If you will help us right now, we can provide immediate relief for these innocent victims.

There is no bureaucratic red tape to hinder or delay our efforts and no costly overheads to drain away money.

The funds will be used to fly teams of paediatricians and nurses from Britain and to supply basic requirements such as dried milk, food, nappies, plastic sheets and essential medicines.

(To ensure that funds are correctly allocated where needs are greatest, all relief operations will be directed from the United Kingdom and all supplies will be distributed under the supervision of British staff on arrival.)

Please help by phoning a donation on your Visa or Access card now on 031 552 0131, or by sending whatever you can afford to the address on the coupon below.

The Romanian Orphanage Trust, PO Box 999, Bridport, DT6 5YD.

I am enclosing a donation of £ _____ to help ease the suffering of Romanian orphans.

Name _____

Address _____

Code for farms using pesticides

By Michael Hornsby, Agriculture Correspondent

A CODE of practice for the use of pesticides, claimed by ministers to be the most advanced in the world, was launched in Hyde Park, London, yesterday.

Environmentalists and trade unionists, however, doubted that it could be monitored or enforced properly because the present number of inspectors meant that some farms were visited only once every 28 years.

Mr David Maclean, Parliamentary Secretary at the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said the code set out "clear and concise" safety rules for pesticide use and "establishes a world lead in the provision of such guidance".

The 75-page code covers, among other things, user training and equipment, pro-

tection of wildlife, plants and public footpaths, prevention of spray drift, the correct disposal of chemical wastes and the keeping of accurate records of pesticide use.

The code is intended to give farmers and growers practical guidance on how to comply with the laws controlling pesticides and hazardous substances, breaches of which can result in unlimited fines.

The Health and Safety Executive has 160 inspectors who visit about 30,000 agricultural, forestry and horticultural premises a year. Mr John Summerscales, the executive's deputy chief agricultural inspector, said that since 1987, it had issued a thousand notices on farmers and others, and prosecuted in 50 cases.

There are about 300,000 registered farm, forestry and horticultural businesses in Britain, and Mr Peter Hurst, a former agricultural inspector who advises the Transport and General Workers' Union, estimated the executive would need another 100 inspectors to do its job properly.

Mr Peter Beaumont, a spokesman for the Pesticides Trust, a charity which monitors the effect of farm chemicals on health and the environment, called on the Government to join other countries in aiming to reduce pesticide use by 25 per cent. Their use has already fallen from 35,000 tonnes a year to 23,900 tonnes, since 1981, partly because of economic pressures and partly because new chemicals do not have to be used in such large amounts.

Complaint on Thorpe story fails

THE Press Council yesterday rejected a complaint of press invasion of privacy at a hospital where Mr Jeremy Thorpe, the former Liberal leader, was a patient.

The complaint, by Mr Clive Wilkinson, chairman of Sandwell health authority, West Midlands, against the *Sandwell Express and Star* and Mr David Lawley, one of its reporters, claimed that Mr Lawley had invaded the privacy of Mr Thorpe, admitted to the Midland Centre for Neurosurgery and Neurology, Smethwick, last November, and that a misleading story based on supposition was printed.

The council found "no breach of journalistic ethics", but suggested talks between health authorities and the media on arrangements for inquiries about patients.

A report that Mr Thorpe, who has Parkinson's Disease, has been admitted and mention of the hospital's pioneering implantation of foetal brain cells let readers infer that he was being assessed or treated, it ruled. A complaint of staff being harassed probably arose from "irritation at persistent press inquiries".



Mr Maclean: Code gives clear safety rules

Bramble the bunny joins health charity

BRAMBLE the rabbit joined the ranks of hospital visitors yesterday as the latest tonic for patients and for those in old people's homes.

He became the newest recruit to the Pets as Therapy charity, which takes the benefits of animal company to the sick and to elderly people under medical care. The charity has almost 5,000 dogs on its register, but Bramble, an 11-week-old white and brown Dutch breed, is its first rabbit. There are plans to enlist cats.

The charity's founder, Mrs Lesley Scott-Ordish, said: "Doctors have searched far and wide for a tonic to prescribe to patients that has no side effects, that people enjoy taking and that makes them laugh. Thank goodness they are now prescribing pets as therapy. The animals have the beneficial power of health."

Pets as Therapy, set up by the ProDogs charity, was yesterday launched as a charity in

its own right. Appealing for volunteers at a press conference, Mrs Scott-Ordish said: "We have the greatest difficulty in keeping pace with demand." Also launched yesterday was an award scheme by Pedigree Pet Foods for the best teams of owners and pets in the scheme.

At the House of Commons yesterday, Olla, the guide dog to Mr David Blunkett, Labour MP for Sheffield, Brightside, met Spot, who is about to be trained as a guide dog, financed by Eric Hill, the author of the Spot books for children.

Mr Hill's creation is celebrating its 10th anniversary. The publishers were launching an appeal for bookshops and Spot readers to raise funds for guide dogs. Mr Hill has paid £2,000 to train two.

Mr Blunkett, whose dog sits with him in the Commons chamber, said: "The thrust of guide dogs is to provide independence and dignity."

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PAN AM

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FOR OUTBOUND TRAVEL FRIDAY THROUGH SUNDAY A SURCHARGE OF £30 APPLIES. £16 DEPARTURE TAX, SECURITY SURCHARGE AND CUSTOMS NOT INCLUDED. FARES MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE ON ALL FLIGHTS AND ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AND GOVERNMENT APPROVAL. THE 7 DAYS FREE CAR OFFER IS FOR AN ECONOMY SIZE CAR. DRIVER MUST BE 21 OR OLDER. DOES NOT INCLUDE COLLISION WAIVER AND LOCAL TAXES. ACCOMMODATION WILL BE AT A QUALITY INN OR COMPARABLE HOTEL AND SUBJECT TO ADVANCE RESERVATION AND AVAILABILITY. PAN AM RESERVES THE RIGHT TO LIMIT THE NUMBER OF PASSENGERS CARRIED ON THESE FLIGHTS.

Power to impose match bans will be considered

NEW regulations to give police the power to veto football matches would have to be considered after the serious disorder at last Saturday's Bournemouth-Leeds United game. Mr David Waddington, the Home Secretary, told the Commons yesterday.

He said that in the past few years the courts had been given new powers to deal with hooliganism — the power to impose exclusion orders under the Public Order Act and to impose restriction orders under the Football Spectators Act. The courts were certainly not without the powers to deal with football hooligans.

"I do not rule out the possibility of going further, and the Chief Constable of Dorset has asked the Association of Chief Police Officers to raise the question of a police veto on such matches. Consideration there must be. But any new powers would take time to put in place."

"I am determined that the football authorities should be made to face their responsibility to prevent any repetition of the deplorable scenes of the Bank holiday weekend."

He had asked for a full report from the Chief Constable of Dorset from whom he understood that there had been a high level of disorder in the town over the entire weekend, mainly involving Leeds supporters.

FOOTBALL

The scenes of violent disorder in Bournemouth were disgraceful and he extended his sympathy to all the police officers injured and to all the law-abiding people who had suffered because of the behaviour of "vicious hooligans".

Once again the police had borne the brunt of a ferocious attack and had conducted themselves with courage and professionalism.

Bournemouth police had anticipated serious disorder, and repeated requests had been made to the football authorities to re-schedule the fixture. The first request had been made as long ago as June last year.

"It is for the football authorities to explain why they did not respond positively to those requests. I have called in both the Football League and the Football Association to discuss the matter." He would see the league later today.

"It is high time that the football authorities headed rather than ignored sensible advice." There was a clear need for the football authorities to work out urgently with chief constables a sensible understanding on handling football fixtures with a high risk of trouble.

Mr David Atkinson (Bournemouth East, C), who had asked a private notice question about the disorder, said that to have

held this match on the Bank holiday weekend had been "a recipe for disaster, destruction and violence".

Mr Waddington said that reports so far on the expert mental by-laws were to the effect that they had been "very popular" with the people in those towns. On the damage done, the law provided that the county council or the police authority had to pay if the Riot Damages Act applied. The question was: Had there been a riot within the meaning of the public Order Act when the damage was done?

Mr Merilyn Rees (Leeds South and Morley, Lab), a former Home Secretary, asked Mr Waddington to consider publishing the names of the 104 people charged of sentencing because many were not from Leeds.

Of course, the Football League had made a mistake; but there was something deeper than that. He did not know the answer but hoped that there would not be any "pussy-footing" on this disgraceful matter. "It is not just banning matches. There is something fundamentally wrong that we should all be putting our minds to."

Mr Waddington said that he did not doubt that the Bournemouth press would publish the names of those involved and that they would also be "published loudly" in Leeds.

He added later that under the Public Order Act there was power for chief constables to impose conditions on assemblies as to the number of people who could attend and as to the time at which they took place. "But there is no law to ban an assembly absolutely." That had been considered by MPs when the Public Order Bill went through the House but it was thought that such powers were not necessary.

Mr Michael Shersby (Uxbridge, C), parliamentary adviser to the Police Federation, wanted Mr Waddington to consider the request of the chief constable for new powers to ban matches in these circumstances. Would he look at the need also to make it a criminal offence to try to enter an all-ticket match without a ticket?

Mr Waddington said he was not quite sure that the last suggestion had much bearing on his matter. On new powers, any new legislation would take time to put on the statute book.

Mr Denis Howell, Opposition spokesman on sport, said that the House had spent a year on a Football Spectators Bill, and Mr Waddington today had confirmed that it had been ineffective, as the Opposition had predicted. This was a matter of criminality and public order, and the responsibility for criminal behaviour lay with the Home Office, though the league too had to accept its responsibilities.

Mr Waddington should ask the Minister for Sport (Mr Colin Moynihan) if he was going to draw to the attention of the House that there had been terrible violence in The Netherlands, Germany, Italy and other countries.

Mr Waddington said that, whatever happened in any other country, the scenes over the years in Britain had brought disgrace and people should not try to find excuses in bad behaviour in other countries.

Parents 'favour the new schools'

EDUCATION

PARENTS of children at 66 of 88 schools balloted had voted in favour of proceeding with applications for grant-maintained status, Mr John MacGregor, Secretary of State for Education and Science, said during Commons questions.

He said that he had approved 37 of the 48 proposals sent to him for a decision.

Mr David Amess (Basildon, C) condemned as irresponsible any local education authority trying to "rubbish" ballots of parents.

Mr MacGregor declared himself a strong supporter of the grant-maintained policy. It had the advantage of quick decision-making and schools and governing bodies had control over their own affairs. Another advantage was that the scheme greatly improved school morale.

Above all, it was popular with parents, as shown by the big increase in numbers favouring the system.

Mr Robert Dunn (Dartford, C), a former Under Secretary of State for Education and Science, said that if Labour had its way, grant-maintained provision under the Education Act, 1988, would be abolished.

Mr MacGregor agreed. In answer to another question, Mrs Angela Rumbold, Minister of State for Education and Science, said that Labour MPs, many of whom were educated at direct grant or grammar schools, were anxious to kick away that ladder of opportunity for others. Now they proposed to kick away the assisted places scheme, but it



was successful. Another 16 schools had been admitted to the assisted places scheme that day.

Proposals by some teacher unions to strike were being led by members of Militant and the hard left. Was it appropriate for such people to be teaching?

Mr MacGregor replied that the reaction of many parents when observing the actions of some teachers in the unions was to say that they did not wish their children to be taught by such people. "But the vast majority of teachers are not like that."

Lords defeat for ministers on care cash

THE Government was defeated in the Lords over its plans not to reserve funds for local authorities specifically for community care.

By 127 votes to 119 — a majority of 8 — peers passed a new clause calling for the "ring-fencing" or identification of grant solely to provide community care services.

It was moved, when the committee stage of the National Health Service and Community Care Bill resumed, by Lord Allen of Abbeydale (Ind), who said that, as the Bill stood, there were risks of its admirable ambitions going sadly wrong.

He foresaw the prospect of a scramble between claims in the queue for allocations from local authorities' limited resources. He told peers that he had been "deluged" with representations in support of the new clause. There was undoubtedly much concern.

It obliged the Government to state how much money was to be made available for community care through the revenue support grant and to enable Parliament to debate each year the level and adequacy of central funding.

"It would ensure that the money intended for the most vulnerable people would reach its destination."

Lord Carter, for the Opposition, supported the clause. There must, he said, be a specific proportion of central funding reserved for community care.

Support was also forthcoming from Lady Faithfull (C), who said that they would lose the confidence of the public if community care was set back because of lack of money.

"If local authorities, and social services in particular, do not know exactly how much money

they are going to have, it is going to be difficult (for them) to prepare their estimates."

She described how, as a director of social services, she had had to cut back her work after preparing her budget because some "great thing" had occurred elsewhere in the city council. "Unless there is money specifically allocated to community care so far as it will inevitably happen in some areas."

Lady Carnegy of Lour (C) argued against the new clause. "People mind very much about community care. It is very, very emotive issue and it is as much as a councillor's life is worth not to spend adequately on social work."

This area of local government should be most carefully run on pragmatic grounds. But she feared that, if the clause were passed, it would become very much more highly politicized.

Lord Kilmarock (SDP) said that the Government was already contemplating ring-fencing funds for the mentally ill. Therefore, it could not possibly argue against ring-fencing in principle.

Lady Young (C) opposed the proposal which, she said, was "like asking for a blank cheque". At the end of the day, it was not going to help those most in need.

Lord Hentley, Under Secretary of State, Social Security, said that the best way to deal with this was through the revenue support grant.

Later, the Government suffered a second defeat when peers voted by 114 votes to 113 — a majority of 1 — for a new clause calling for the community care proposals to be subject to an Order by the Secretary of State after consultation with local authorities, users and carers.

Think tank offers development plan

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

LIMITED companies should be set up in the regions of Britain to spearhead economic development, a leading left-wing think tank proposed yesterday.

The Institute for Public Policy Research proposed that Whitehall should stop trying to direct regional policy from the centre and instead allow the establishment of regional development companies to negotiate regional funds from the Government and the European Community.

A report by one of the institute's research fellows, Ms Irene Brunskill, said that the companies could be set up as public interest companies under present company law, with the leading players in the local economy, councils, the private sector and providers of education and training, all holding shares.

It stated: "Giving regions the responsibility for regional policy has been successful in West Germany and other European countries. It can work in Britain too."

The institute said that the companies would be self-generating, in that they would depend on different sectors of the community coming together to set them up. Member organizations would appoint the

board, which in turn would appoint the management and ensure that the right mixture of skills was represented.

The institute estimated that the Department of Trade and Industry, the Department of Education and Science and the Department of the Environment spent £3.5 billion at present on programmes that could be managed at regional level.

It argued that the funding for economic development should be increased over the next few years and allocated to the new companies, which would also be able to apply for European Community regional grants.

They would be given names such as North East plc. They would have a regional base and a degree of regional accountability, but ultimate accountability would be to the main funders — central government and the European Community — which would assess their performance.

The report said: "Government should give the regions the tools to get on with the job in the way that suits them best."

The Regeneration Game: A Regional Approach to Regional Policy (IPPR, 18 Buckingham Gate SW1E 7LS).

Technology teams for the regions

By Richard Ford, Political Correspondent

A SERIES of regionally based teams should be set up to ensure that British business can exploit new scientific and technological ideas as part of efforts to improve the nation's industrial success.

The "technology" teams would be based on the present Department of Trade and Industry network and would aim to overcome Britain's poor performance in using new industrial techniques, according to a report published yesterday.

The teams would assess the potential for transferring and spreading research within their regions to business and they would assist small manufacturing firms to create strategies for using new technology.

A report by the Institute for Public Policy Research said that too many British ideas were turned into profitable products overseas despite our scientists and inventors being among the best in the world.

"The take-up of inventions in Britain is slow and haphazard. In other countries, government

RESEARCH

plays a key role in helping small firms to exploit scientific research. But the British Government's system of technology transfer is no system at all: it is a mess," the report said.

Based on a system operating in Denmark, the technology teams would help to correct market failures by assisting businesses to exploit technological change and by alerting small companies to useful innovations.

The report, written by David Miliband, said that the teams were needed because product and process innovations do not spread quickly through the British economy and that small and medium-size firms could benefit from government help.

"A public infrastructure for regional economic development would provide an important boost to technological take-up, and demonstrate how government intervention in a particular economic development can profitably reorder market priorities," he said.

Inflation attack by Kinnock

THE Prime Minister was the inflation-maker in chief, Mr Kinnock said during a noisy exchange at question time. He urged her to get inflation down by reducing interest rates and she retorted that pursuing those policies would take inflation back to Labour levels of 26 per cent.

Mr Kinnock: Can she tell us why, under her Government, the inflation rate in Britain is 40 per cent higher than the European average?

Mrs Thatcher: Our top responsibility is to get inflation down.

A Labour MP: You are losing. Mrs Thatcher: The way to get down inflation is to increase the price of money and that is why interest rate is 15 per cent. One reason for inflation being higher than it should be is that we were fearful of a very bad recession after the stock exchange crash of 1987 and we inflated a little too quickly. That is why we have to squeeze out inflation.

Mr Kinnock: The main danger of recession comes directly from her policy of maintaining the highest interest and mortgage rates anywhere in the developed world. The main single reason for inflation is her policy of high interest rates.

Mrs Thatcher: He is suggesting that we reduce interest rates and increasing growth? She added that that would take inflation to the level experienced under Labour.

Welcome for European fighter contract

DEFENCE

THE award of the £300 million radar contract for the European Fighter Aircraft to a European consortium led by GEC Ferranti Defence Systems was given an enthusiastic welcome by Labour as well as Conservative MPs when it was announced in the Commons yesterday.

The EFA partner nations, Britain, Germany, Italy and Spain had selected the consortium, known as Euroradar, to develop the ECR 90 radar system.

Mr Martin O'Neill, chief Opposition spokesman on defence, emphasized Labour's commitment to the fighter project now and in the future.

Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Defence, admitted that the financial difficulties of Ferranti had placed the project in jeopardy and only a few months ago prospects had looked "very bleak indeed".

The announcement represented "a major milestone for British airborne radar technology in this most important multinational development project".

Mr O'Neill asked what were the technical, financial and commercial problems which had been resolved. Was it true that the Government had signed a memorandum of understanding with the West Germans, indemnifying the West Germans against losses? Was there anything in the Luftwaffe suggestion that the European Fighter Aircraft could have a more defensive role? The agree-

ment removed the last obstacle from the realization of the European Fighter Aircraft project which was so important to the defence of Europe.

Mr King said the contract would be of great benefit to those who worked for the old Ferranti radar system.

Ninety-five per cent of the British share of the work would be done at Ferranti in Edinburgh.

There was no memorandum with the West Germans, but there was a "side letter" which the Government had given to the West Germans. This gave assurances that any extra costs



which might be incurred by the German company responsible for the integration of the radar would be met by a back-to-back indemnity from GEC Ferranti Defence Systems.

Paying tribute to those who had helped to secure the contract, he said that at one time the commercial difficulties of Ferranti had threatened to jeopardize the whole project and it was encouraging that other companies had stepped in to see the scheme could go ahead.

Mr Menzies Campbell, Liberal Democrat spokesman on defence, welcomed the agreement, but asked if there were any circumstances in which the British Government would become liable for losses. What happened if a new West German government withdrew from the fighter project?

Mr King said there would be no cost to the British Government. It believed the radar was the best for the purpose.

Mr Gavin Strang (Edinburgh East, Lab) said the contract was of enormous importance to British industry and technology and to the pilots who would fly the new aircraft. The minister was providing the basis for thousands of jobs in the next century.

Mr King said later that the contract would be shared four ways, with Britain and West Germany each receiving a third, Italy 21 per cent and Spain 12 per cent. The British share represented £100 million for GEC Ferranti.

Riot costs disputed

MINISTERS resisted pressure in the Lords to meet the full cost of policing the riot at Strangeways prison in Manchester.

Earl Ferrers, Minister of State, Home Office, told peers that an estimated £500,000 had been spent in containing the perimeter during the first 10 days of the disturbance, but it was not yet possible to give a final figure.

He said that the Government already provided much towards the cost of policing. Additional funds were paid only when the circumstances were exceptional and unforeseen and on such a scale as to threaten the efficiency of the force.

The Bishop of Manchester, the Right Rev Stanley Cleeve, said it would be unjust if the community charge payers had to incur the burden.

Search for dumped explosives

SCOTLAND

A RESEARCH vessel is to make an underwater survey of the Firth of Clyde to establish the extent of explosive material and detonators dumped on the sea bed there over the past 50 years, Mr Ian Lang, Minister of State for Scotland, told the Commons in a statement yesterday.

He told the House: "Fishermen working in the Firth of Clyde have recovered a quantity of explosive material and detonators in their nets. It is believed that these items may be associated with the dump site at Birch Point used until last year by the Royal Naval Division for the disposal of explosives waste."

The fishermen claim that the material was recovered outside the limits of the dump site. The Department of Agriculture and Fisheries for Scotland has advised fishermen of the steps to be taken should they find explosive material in their nets and instructed them to report the precise location of the incident in order that further investigations can be made.

"A department research vessel will reach the area as soon as possible to establish the situation through underwater surveys."

Until these surveys are completed, it is not possible to offer an informed opinion as to how the material has come to be located outside the dump site.

The dump site has been used for many years. It is clearly identified on the Admiralty navigation charts as an explosives dump site and fishermen are well aware of its existence and position and how it has to be avoided.

Disposal operations at the site have been strictly controlled and monitored by the department since 1974 under the Dumping at Sea Act and more recently under the Food and Environment Protection Act, 1985. Regular surveys have been carried out by the department to establish accuracy of dumping and the effects on the marine environment.

"ICI's Nobel Division were the only holders of a licence to dispose of industrial waste at sea in Scotland. Their licence expired in August 1989 and was not

renewed. This was in line with the decision of the Second North Sea Conference in 1987 to terminate the dumping of industrial waste at sea by the end of 1989. The disposal of detonators at sea has been prohibited since 1984."

The Clyde Fishermen's Association and the Scottish Fishermen's Federation have been advised of the situation. The advice given to fishermen by the department is that any explosive material found in nets should be returned immediately to the sea and the position marked with a buoy for further investigation and recovery as necessary by the relevant authorities.

Mr George Foulkes (Carrick, Dumfries and Galloway, Lab) said that fishermen believed that the explosives covered hundreds of square miles of the Firth of Clyde. The area was used not just by fishermen, but also by ferries and pleasure craft. Dumping should be stopped at once.

Mr Lang said that some material had been found 18 miles from the dumping site which was a narrow one, half a mile across and 75 fathoms deep. Fishermen had been advised to keep clear of the area.

Bill on euthanasia rejected

A move to introduce a Bill to allow voluntary euthanasia was rejected in the Commons by 101 votes to 35. Seeking leave to introduce the Voluntary Euthanasia Bill, Mr Roland Byers (Houghton and Washington, Lab) said that he had been present when his mother had died of cancer, and was released from her pain. He did not want his family to endure, in his case, the experience that he had had when his mother died.

He was opposed by Mr Anthony Nield (Chichester, C), who said that the Bill would materially undermine the sanctity of life.

UKAE chiefs appointed

Dr Brian Eyre, a full-time member of the UK Atomic Energy Authority, has been appointed chief executive and deputy chairman, Mr John Wakeham, Secretary of State for Energy, said in a Commons written reply.

He said that Dr Eyre's appointment to the authority, which was due to end on July 31, 1992, would now expire on April 30, 1995.

He also announced that he had appointed Mr John Maltby as part-time chairman of the authority from July 1 in succession to Mr John Collier. The appointment is for three years.

Flexibility for Welsh TV

The Welsh television channel, S4C, is to be given more flexibility to show programmes from Channel 4. Proposing a government new clause to the Broadcasting Bill when its report stage began in the Commons, Mr David Mellor, Minister of State, Home Office, said that that and other amendments relating to the Welsh channel were the result of undertakings to the Opposition during committee stage of the Bill.

Parliament today Commons (2.30): Questions: Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Broadcasting Bill, continuation of report stage.

Lords (2.30): Debates on environmental waste and on complementary medicine.

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Gorbachov sets terms for German unification

From Mary Dejevsky, Moscow

PRESIDENT Gorbachov yesterday set out Moscow's conditions for supporting German unity at a ceremony dedicated to the memory of those Soviet citizens who died in the war against the last united Germany.

In an otherwise measured and low-key speech, he included an impassioned attack on his opponents among the military at home by comparing their aims and methods with those of German fascism. He also condemned Stalin for disregarding all the signs of the impending German invasion in 1940 and 1941 and blamed him for the catastrophic Soviet casualties of 1941-2.

The Soviet leader was addressing an appreciative audience stuffed with marshals and generals in full dress uniform, who had assembled in the Bolshoi Theatre to commemorate the 45th anniversary of the end of the Second World War.

The grandest ceremony will

take place today, Victory Day, with a military parade through Red Square.

On the future of Germany and Europe, Mr Gorbachov stressed that the post-war settlement at Yalta had set down two fundamental principles: that the victors would not allow war to arise from German soil or from anywhere else in Europe ever again, and that post-war borders should be inviolable. Stressing that these principles should continue to be respected, the Soviet leader said a united Germany should become "one of the pillars of the European process".

Unification, he said, should not threaten any country's security interests — including those of the Soviet Union. Agreement on German unification should provide certainty that only peace would rise from German soil, that it would define the united Germany's military status, and it would guarantee the permanence of the post-war borders.

Albanians seek role in talks

Vienna — Albania announced yesterday that it wanted to join the East-West Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE), a further move away from its legacy of isolation.

The announcement was made in a speech to parliament by the Prime Minister, Mr Adil Carani, who also gave details of what he said were radical changes to Albania's centrally planned economy.

Last month, the Albanian leader, Mr Ramiz Alia, declared his readiness to establish diplomatic relations with Moscow and Washington, after decades of opposition to ties with the two superpowers. (Reuters)

Rebels cheer as coup trial opens

Manila — Twenty-one Philippines army rebels cheered defiantly when they went on trial yesterday in the first court martial of officers linked to December's bloody military attempt to overthrow President Aquino.

The 21 defendants were the first group of officers to be tried in connection with the sixth and most serious army coup attempt against President Aquino in which 113 people died and 600 were wounded. (Reuters)

Call to destroy smallpox virus

Geneva — The United States told the World Health Assembly yesterday that within three years it will destroy its remaining research stocks of the smallpox virus. It said it would like the Soviet Union to do the same (Alan McGregor writes).

After a 10-year eradication campaign, WHO was able to declare the world free of the disease in 1980. But the possibility remained of sporadic cases in remote areas beyond the reach of vaccination teams. Stocks of the smallpox virus were retained in case supplies of fresh vaccine were ever needed.

French toreros in fight to save face

From Philip Jacobson, Paris

IT CANNOT be much fun to be a matador in France, consigned firmly to the role of supporting cast while the real stars from Spain swagger in. Even at the great Pentecost feria in Nîmes next month, one of the few occasions when the French get a chance to shine before their own crowds, most of the glory, and the big money, is reserved for names from Madrid and Seville.

But this year, French toreros decided that enough was enough: after learning last week that only a miserable two places on the Nîmes programme, they donned suits of lights and strode off to occupy the mayor's office. The honour of France could only be satisfied, they declared, by ensuring that eight of the 13 scheduled corridas featured home-grown bullfighters.

Enter the Syndicat Français des Professions Tauromaniques — the grandly-named trade union for the country's handful of fully-fledged matadors (less than a dozen by most reckonings) and a score of hopeful novices. Please understand, came the message, that much more than money was at stake in this

dispute, though it is true that the £50,000 per contract that leading Spaniards can expect to pocket in Nîmes is 10 times as much as their French counterparts will pick up.

But pride lay at the heart of the matter, the same macho pride in their bloody trade that had once taken the present director of the Nîmes programme, Simon Casas, to fight in Spain. Last weekend, M Casas was prevailed upon to offer his countrymen six places: haughty to a fault, they rejected that, only to reconsider hastily when the exasperated mayor of Nîmes threatened to take direct control of the feria.

Although the popularity of bullfighting has been growing fast in France in recent years — attendances at Nîmes and other arenas in the Gard region now rank above a good many in Spain — there is undeniably a dearth of native talent. For dedicated fans here, the only contemporary French torero fit to appear in the highest company was Nîmesino II, and he, alas, will never fight again after being badly injured by an especially dangerous Miura bull in the nearby arena at Arles.



A woman trying to gain the Pope's attention in Veracruz, the Gulf of Mexico, pulls at his cassock. Yesterday he repeated a warning to Catholics not to be lured to Protestant sects which are growing in Latin America

Heavy losses for Communists in Italian elections

Rome

THE Communist Party in Italy, reeling from the impact of democratic change in Eastern Europe, has suffered one of its worst defeats in nationwide local elections.

Maverick protest groups based in the north, which want greater autonomy from Rome and claim the country is being dragged back by the poor south, made shock gains. The result in regional, provincial and city polls further reduced the chances of a left-wing alternative in Italy and was likely to force the five parties in the squabbling coalition Government to stick together.

Only 24 per cent of voters in the regional polls on Sunday and Monday supported the West's biggest Communist party, caught in the midst of a painful transformation.

The result for the Communists was more than four points down on their showing in European elections last year and 6 per cent down on previous regional elections in 1985. They remained the second biggest party, behind the majority Christian Democrats who lead the Government.

The Christian Democrats took 33.4 per cent, about one point up on the European poll and 1.6 percentage points behind their 1985 standing.

The Socialists of Signor Bettino Craxi, the former

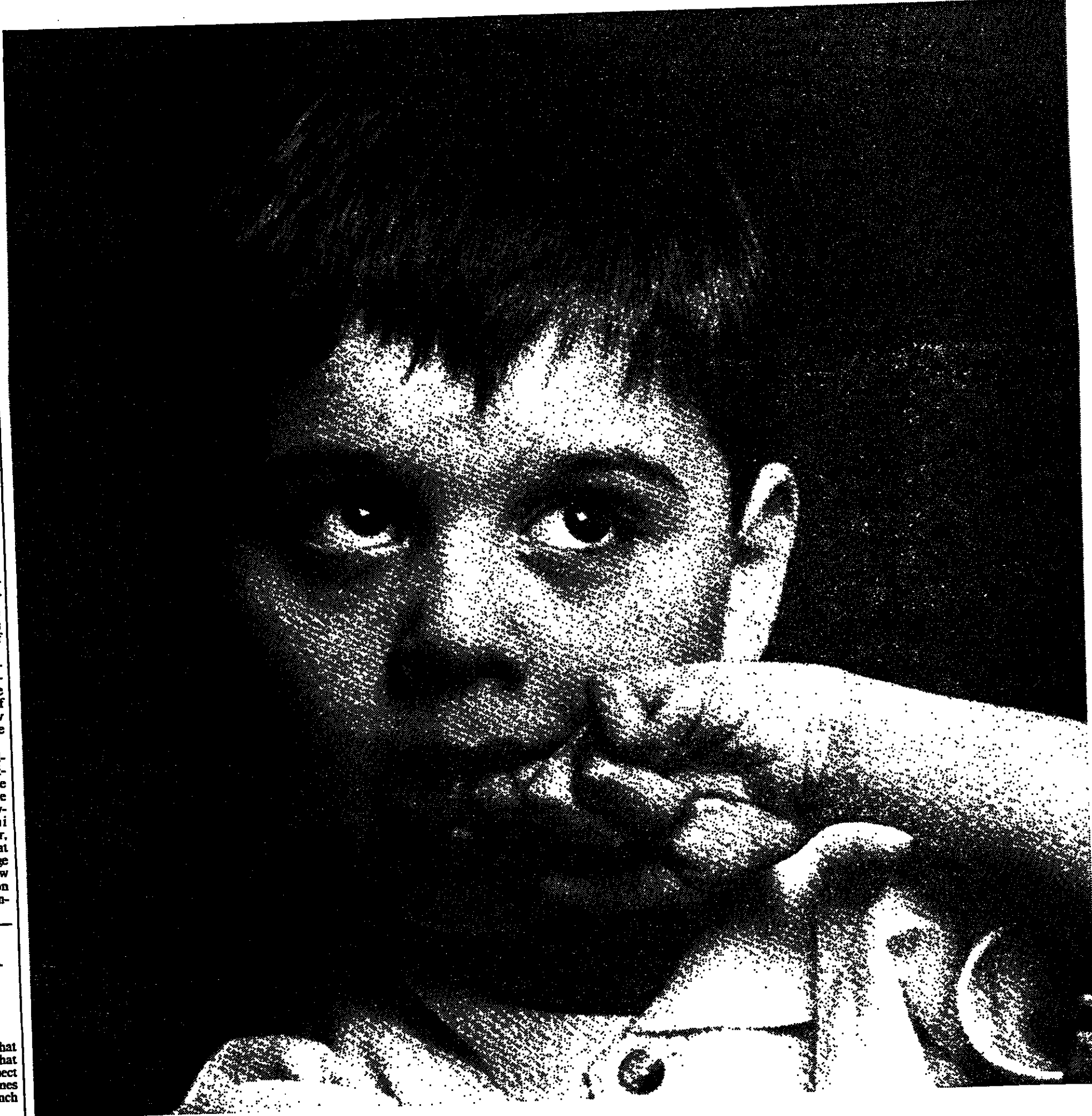
Prime Minister, who are the second biggest party in the Government, were the only conventional group to make gains over the previous regional elections, polling 15.3 per cent compared with 13.3 per cent in 1985.

The Communists, in steady decline since 1984, have supported the plan of Signor Achille Occhetto, their leader, to transform the party into a new social democrat movement, dropping the hammer and sickle symbol and the Communist name. The election setback led his hardline and traditionalist opponents in the party to call for a halt to the transformation process.

Signor Occhetto said the party's share of votes had remained above the 23 per cent which he had set as the lowest acceptable level and he vowed to push ahead with reform.

The biggest shock was a swell in support for four "leagues" in the prosperous north which have campaigned against the traditional parties, demanding autonomy from control by Rome and tight regulation of immigration.

The leagues claim that the dynamic north is being held back by the poor south and parasitic bureaucrats in the capital. They have been accused of racism against southern Italians.



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Romania protesters snub Iliescu by leaving peace talks

From Christopher Walker, Bucharest

ATTEMPTS to negotiate a peaceful end to the mass anti-government demonstration in Bucharest collapsed yesterday with bitter recriminations on both sides. The demonstration has blocked the commercial heart of Bucharest for the past 17 days and is threatening the conduct of the election on May 20.

Representatives of the protesters, demanding a 10-year ban on former Communist Party activists standing for elected office, walked out of talks with a government delegation even before meeting the interim President, Mr Ion Iliescu, because they alleged he would not permit the proceedings to be filmed for television.

Mr Marian Munteanu, a spokesman for Bucharest students, later returned to the barricaded area across the city's main boulevard, which has been declared a "Communist-free zone", to inform cheering crowds that the delegation refused to take part in any negotiations which were not openly filmed.

In blazing sunshine, the protesters responded to the Government's failed initiative with renewed chants demanding President Iliescu's resignation. Ordinary Romanians queued in their hundreds to sign a petition which originated in the town of Timisoara, the birthplace of the revolution on March 11, demanding the exclusion of all former Communist Party activists from any election list

for the first three terms. The Bucharest demonstration has spawned similar street protests in other towns, including Timisoara, and presented the provisional Government with its biggest challenge since taking power in the wake of the December revolution.

All traffic in the centre of the capital has to be diverted around the barricaded zone, which is filled with crude caricatures depicting Mr Iliescu and other members of the ruling National Salvation Front as tools of Moscow trying to drag Romania back down the road of communism. Photographs fixed to the barricade show the President relaxing in the company of Nicolae Ceausescu, the executed dictator.

According to government sources, there had been divisions inside the Front about whether the noisy protest — complete with tents, music, amplified speeches and mock gallows for hanging Communists — should be broken up by force. "The attempted dialogue with the demonstrators was a gamble which failed," an official said.

Another member of the provisional administration accused the demonstrators of attempting to stage a "coup d'etat" designed to sabotage the election set for May 20 because opinion polls have shown Mr Iliescu, a former top Communist turned dissident, with a commanding share of 79 per cent of the votes. The protesters, whose

numbers sometimes rise as high as 15,000 and who maintain their anti-government chants around the clock, include students, blue and white collar workers, intellectuals, and down and out. Their squalid camp life in the shadow of Romania's National Theatre gives the protest the atmosphere of a seedy pop festival.

"It is ridiculous for the Government to suggest that we are paid by political parties to protest. I come here as often as I can every day because I do not want to live under another dictatorship," explained Miss Despina Reteu, a music critic. "Without any doubt, the people will remain here until our liberty is secured."

In the days since it began in a small way on April 22, the demonstration has started to generate talk of the need for more political violence. "The only solution is another revolution", the most often shouted slogan insists. Officials fear that it will swell if, as predicted, the Front wins the election both for the presidency and a new bicameral parliament.

"Are a few thousand people entitled to decide for the whole electorate?" asked the semi-official weekly, *Romanian News*. Among the honest people (at the demonstration) there are also a few trouble-makers and profiteers who are trying to take advantage of their new position as ring-leaders in case a new revolution breaks out."

Dirty tricks surface in Balkans style election

From Christopher Walker, Bucharest



Mr Ratiu: Playing a keen game despite intimidation

AT THE age of 72, Mr Ion Ratiu, flamboyant property and shipping magnate and one of three candidates for the post of President in the May 20 election, is learning the hard way that European politics are never fought more dirtily than in the Balkans.

After a flood of obscene and threatening telephone calls had jammed lines in his campaign offices in the rambling home of the imprisoned former Mayor of Bucharest, he was given a new, ex-directory number in an attempt to cut down the death threats.

A tape on his desk carried a record of the most recent calls. Most were from women shouting abuse of the crudest variety. "About the most printable thing they say about me is that I am Dracula," he said with a shrug. "I am afraid that many people in this country still know nothing about democracy."

Less than 48 hours earlier, Mr Ratiu's wife Elisabeth (a member of the British Pilkington Glass family) was attacked by mental patients and their nurses wielding iron bars and hurling stones as she visited the psychiatric wing of a Bucharest hospital.

Shortly after the attack, which left Mrs Ratiu shaken but unharmed, Romanian television falsely accused Mr Ratiu of having been previously married to Mrs Doina Cornea, the former prominent dissident and one of his supporters.

"In true communist fashion there has been a systematic campaign of disinformation,

denigration and intimidation against me, but I am playing a keen game," Mr Ratiu said. "I am here to teach them democracy and the communist forces are unhappy because I am gaining credibility."

Mr Ratiu, candidate of the right-wing National Peasant Party, one of three pre-Second World War groupings contesting the vote, remains the outsider in the opinion polls. But he believes that if the voting goes into a second round he still stands a good chance of emerging as President.

The list of harassment and violence he presents to visitors makes a depressing commentary on the legacy of 24 years of communist dictatorship. As the epitome of the free-market capitalist, he and his party have suffered more than other candidates. "At the last count, we have had two

members killed canvassing and 60 recorded attacks on offices of the party in various areas," said Mr Ratiu, sitting below photographs recording previous encounters with Mrs Thatcher and the Pope. "As election day approaches, things are getting worse."

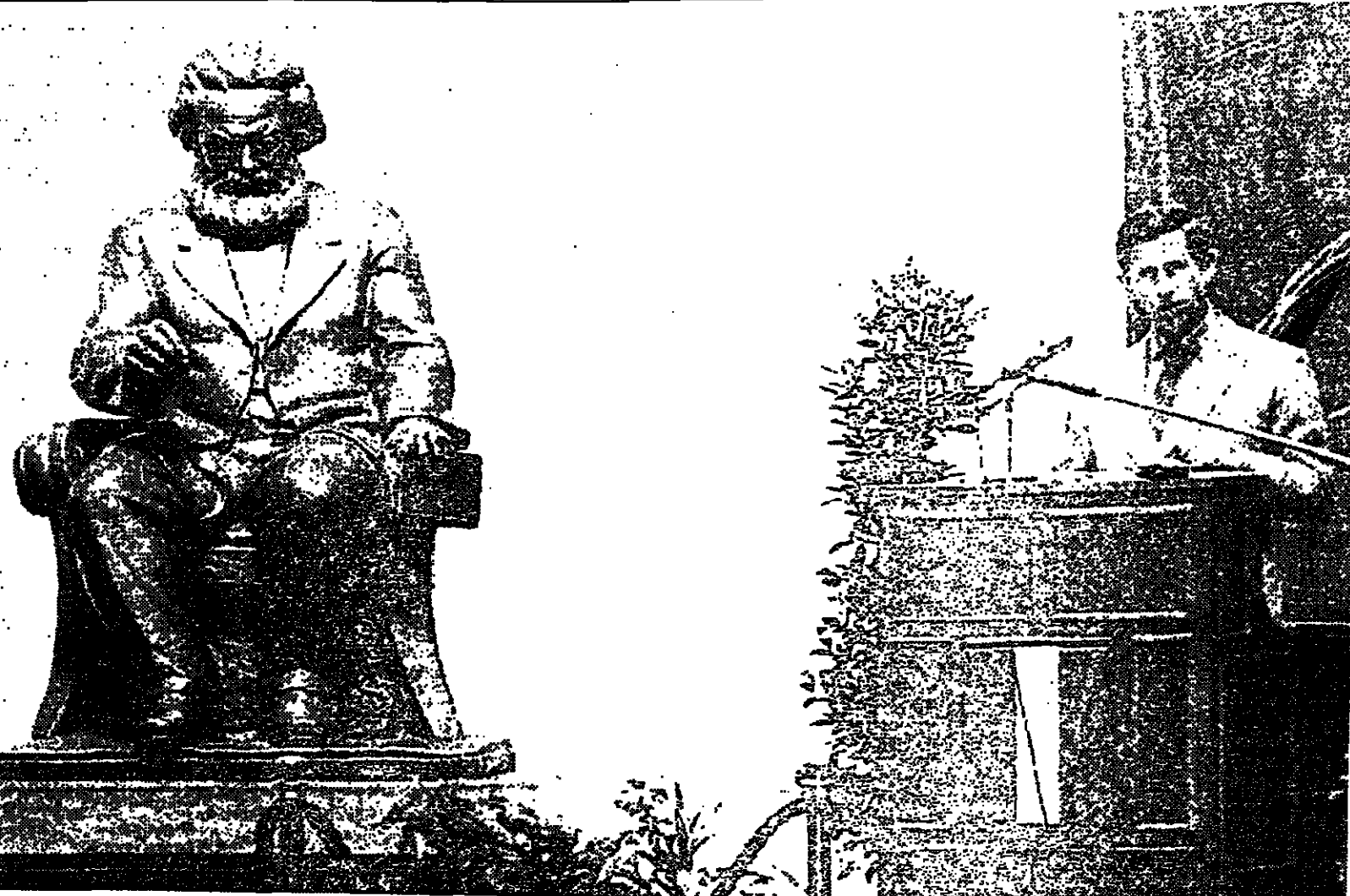
The deaths occurred in February near the Moldavian town of Bacau.

More recent violence against supporters of the National Peasant Party, the strongest advocate of the import of Western capital to save Romania's economy, has been less disputable. Mr Ratiu was nearly lynched by supporters of the ruling National Salvation Front when he visited the industrial town of Buzau last week.

"The Mayor wrongly introduced himself as an old friend when he was a Front supporter and led me into the centre of a screaming mob of thousands," said Mr Ratiu, who is now advised to travel everywhere with a surgeon in attendance. "I was trapped in a police station when the Army refused to help and only able to escape when an empty police wagon was sent into the crowd as 'bait' and I slipped under the cover."

Mr Ratiu, an exile who left in 1940 to work in the Romanian Legation in London and never went back (the Fascists took over soon after he left), founded the World Union of free Romanians in 1984 and fashioned it into a tool for pressure against Nicolae Ceausescu.

Despite the intimidation, he gives every indication of having found his vocation in politics.



With the statue of Karl Marx alongside, the Prince of Wales yesterday told the Budapest University of Economic Science that Hungarians had been extraordinarily brave and unique in retaining their spirit, culture and identity, despite the drama through which they had lived

Soup kitchen solace for Kadar's victims

From Ernest Beck, Budapest

WHILE Hungary's new Government ponders its strategy for economic restructuring and the Prince of Wales launches a scheme to promote private enterprise, the poor and downtrodden of Budapest make their way every day to an austere barracks in a derelict corner of the city, which has become the country's first soup kitchen.

At exactly two o'clock about 80 people, mostly men, both young and old, and dressed in tattered clothing, assemble outside the metal fence which guards a vacant lot and a prefabricated trailer in Budapest's notoriously poor District Eight, with vistas of shabby one-storey buildings and dusty streets. When a sister from Mother Teresa's Missionaries of Charity opens the gate they walk towards the building where hot soup, bread and a shower await.

According to Father Ferenc Bajza, a Roman Catholic priest, who organized the soup kitchen, these are "the poorest of the poor" — old people, gypsies, young families and newly-arrived refugees from Transylvania — who are victims of the former communist regime's economic mismanagement and are now neglected by the local city

council which is desperately short of cash.

"During this last period of communism everything was destroyed, factories, families, charity and hope," Father Bajza said. "There have been many highs and lows in Hungarian history, but now we are at the deepest point."

Although no more than 100 people come daily to the soup kitchen since it opened last month, the Red Cross announced this week that it would open a second facility in the belief that there are many more hungry people who are too proud to ask for handouts.

Relief workers who deal with the city's poor say the number of needy is growing rapidly as the painful period of adjustment from a centrally planned to a market economy takes effect. They estimate that up to one fifth of the population, or some two million people, live below the poverty line.

Prices are rising and pensions cannot keep pace. One man waiting for a meal, who lives in a refuge for the homeless, receives the equivalent of £40 a month after having worked 30 years for the railways. Who does he blame for the mess? "Kadar and the

other 100 heads of the dragon, some of whom are living on fat pensions."

Communism and a feeble attempt at economic reform by the Kadar regime have indeed wreaked havoc on Hungary. The new Government has inherited a decrepit industrial wasteland, huge foreign debts and inflation which could hit 30 per cent by mid-year. Spontaneous privatization of state industries is making some people rich, but the bulk of the population cannot cope with the change after being coddled by the communist regime for 40 years with cheap housing and subsidized food.

District Eight was always poor, Father Bajza explained, but in the past 10 years, since the economy took a turn for the worse, the situation has deteriorated dramatically and the communist authorities would never acknowledge the existence of poor people in the workers' paradise. "Now there are families here who live like cats and dogs, like animals," the priest says.

Crime and prostitution are rampant in the area, where some 80,000 people live, and the police, who are woefully understaffed due to mass desertions for better paying jobs in the private sector, cannot adequately protect the public. But they did agree to mount a patrol around the soup kitchen grounds after two sisters were attacked.

Despite the gloomy atmosphere there is some hope among the poor who have gathered here for some fleeting moments of human kindness. Many say they voted for Democratic Forum, the centre-right party which won a majority in parliament, and believe that it alone can save them and the country from the current crisis.

When the meal is over, the poor file out of the building and head off in different directions clutching plastic bags with their belongings and pieces of bread. On a wall someone has scrawled prophetically: "Communism kills, makes you stupid and destitute."

EC moves to cement East European links

From Michael Binyon, Brussels

THE European Community yesterday took decisive steps in cementing new links with its neighbours, signing trade agreements with two more East European countries and authorizing its negotiators to begin integration talks with the six members of the European Free Trade Association.

Bulgaria and East Germany signed trade and co-operation treaties similar to that signed on Monday with Czechoslovakia, leaving only Romania among the emergent East European democracies still to negotiate a deal with Brussels.

Mr Andrei Lukanov, the Bulgarian Prime Minister, and Herr Gerhard Pohl, the East German Economics Minister, arrived here for the signing ceremony as Brussels was commemorating the 40th anniversary of the declaration by M Robert Schuman, the former French Foreign Minister, that led to the setting up of the European Coal and Steel Communities, precursors of the Common Market.

The agreements will give East Europeans greater access to EC markets. They will encourage EC investment and promote co-operation in many areas.

Berlin harmony fosters spread of a capital idea

From Anne McElvoy, East Berlin

AT THE now manifold border crossing points in Berlin, guards wave through queues of cars without even a glance at passports. The mayor of West Berlin drinks in the same pub in the East as his newly elected East Berlin counterpart and discusses how soon they will battle it out for the mayorship of a united Berlin. The city's police and emergency services are working together on a daily basis and West Berlin beer has even found its way into East Berlin pubs.

While the two Germanies still maintain a suspicious, querulous relationship on the road to unity, the two Berlins are growing together daily as if the breaching of the wall had allowed a natural healing process to resume.

With its new wholeness has come a fresh self-confidence. "We are the future capital," East and West Berliners will tell you proudly as if it were the most natural thing in the world.

Berlin has effectively re-appointed itself as the capital without a word being said on the matter since the West German Government's declaration of 1949 named Berlin as the natural German capital with Bonn as a transitional solution.

The assumption that this means a united Berlin will simultaneously replace Bonn as capital is beginning to cause nervous flutters on the Rhine. Already 8,000 officials and politicians have formed an initiative called "Yes to Bonn". They are campaigning for Bonn to remain the seat of government on the American model of separate administrative and geographical capitals. They have the support of 15,000 civil servants who are not thrilled at the prospect of trading life in the peaceful suburbs of the Rhineland for the overcrowded Prussian metropolis.

In the other corner is the "Initiative for Berlin as Capital" campaigning for Berlin to have full capital status and berating the small town small mindedness of the current federal capital.

A complete transfer of power and status to Berlin, however, would alienate vast swathes of today's West German territory. For Bavarians, Berlin as capital is unthinkable because it would relegate the region which currently enjoys special status to the outer edges of prestige — the status that Berlin has suffered for 40 years.

The Munich satirist Herr Konstantine Wecker has been collecting objections heard in recent weeks and reports that they are in descending order that Berlin is too left-wing, speaks a dialect equally and oppositely impenetrable to that of Bavaria and thirdly, is almost in Poland.

This last count has also been perceived as a serious stumbling block in government circles. The redrawing of Germany's eastern border after the war left the city known in Prussian days as the East of the West, and the West of the East out on a geographical limb and just 30 miles from the sensitive Polish border — scarcely the best position from which to govern a united Germany.

Critics of Berlin as sole capital are multiplying in West Germany and include the veteran publisher, Countess Marion Donhoff, who says the legacy of Berlin as the seat of Nazi power makes it unsuitable to be the capital of a democratic Germany anxious to bed itself down in a unified Europe. In an article in her

newspaper, *Die Zeit*, this week she writes: "The decision to make Berlin the capital would send out a false signal. It could tempt the Germans even without their intending it to embark on the way to becoming a nation state instead of keeping the European goal in mind."

The final decision will be reached by the first joint German parliament, probably in 1991. Before then the pro-Berlin initiative intends to set up a branch in Bonn where close aides of Chancellor Kohl are favoured to move to Berlin for symbolic reasons.

In the former Prussian capital by contrast, there has not been a flicker of interest in the idea of an opposing group: "Berliners for Bonn."

● BONN: Herr Helmut Kohl, the West German Chancellor, yesterday rejected a Soviet suggestion that Bonn could rapidly unite with East Germany then sort out the tricky problem of military allegiance later.

He said the idea that solutions to the external problems of unity — such as a united Germany's membership of Nato — could be put on ice did not correspond to his views. "It would be fatal," he told reporters.

Herr Kohl said his Government wanted to stick to its timetable, which meant the external aspects of unification, such as membership of Nato, should be sorted out by the autumn. (Reuter)

Jews mark start of Holocaust

From John Holland, West Berlin

SEVERAL hundred Jews, many of them Nazi concentration camp survivors, gathered yesterday at the Berlin lake-side villa where 48 years ago Hitler's SS decided on "the Final Solution". The visit to Wannsee, now being refurbished as a museum, was the emotional key event of the first meeting of the World Jewish Congress in Germany. "It really was the banality of evil," said the Mayor of West Berlin, Herr Walter Momper, gazing about the high-ceilinged room where Eichmann and Heydrich sat sipping cognac on January 20, 1942, discussing the various means of transporting millions of Jews to their deaths.

"It was a normal place, just a normal large house," said Herr Momper of the villa. "The meeting was about German administration — very efficient, very exact — but it was of course the Holocaust."

Mr Elie Wiesel, the Nobel prize laureate, sent a declaration which was read at the gathering. Mr Wiesel, himself a survivor of Auschwitz, did not attend, and it was widely believed that he stayed away to show his long-standing disagreement with the World Jewish Congress, which has been accused by some Jewish leaders of improperly claiming to speak for all Jews.

He wrote: "It is Jewish history which the Germans tried to annihilate here. That is what a Jew remembers in Wannsee. But it means that when we Jews visit and listen to the sombre and dark echoes at Wannsee, we aim at preventing future generations from inheriting our past as their future." Mr Leslie Keller, president of the World Federation of Hungarian Jews, said: "I am against the people who didn't come here."

Quayle emphasizes Thatcher's 'special relationship' with US

By Michael Knipe, Diplomatic Correspondent

VICE-President Dan Quayle underlined Mrs Thatcher's "special relationship" with the US Administration when he called on the Prime Minister at Downing Street yesterday.

He said outside No. 10: "She continues to have a very important special relationship with our President, and your country and our country continue to have that special relationship that has worked for peace and freedom over the years."

Mr Quayle's visit — on the 45th anniversary of VE Day — was one of the events marking the centenary of the birth of Dwight Eisenhower, the US President and Supreme Commander of the allied armies in the Second World War.

At No. 10, Vice-President Quayle presented Mrs Thatcher with a specially minted centennial silver dollar, and the two paid fulsome tribute to Eisenhower's foresight in anticipating German reunification and European moves to end its divisions.

Miss Susan Eisenhower, the late President's granddaughter, and her Russian husband, Mr Roald Sagdeyev, were among those who at-

tended the ceremony, but Mr Denis Thatcher, who had just arrived home from the United States, missed it, preferring to go upstairs to shave.

Paying tribute to Eisenhower, Mrs Thatcher said: "The march of events in Eastern Europe now reveals the full measure of the man and of his foresight."

"On this day 45 years ago — VE Day — he spoke in his victory order to the Allied Expeditionary Force solving the many problems then facing Europe, and to come by co-operation and devotion to the cause of human freedom."

"He was to work for what he called 'an age of just peace', one pursued by a free world aroused, as rarely in history, by the will to stay free, and determined to stay vigilant in its defence."

Mrs Thatcher spoke of a "prophetic" speech that Eisenhower made in Washington in 1953, in which he saw the US striving from the firm foundation of Nato "to foster a broader European community, conducive to the free movement of persons, of trade and of ideas".

She added: "He worked for

the reduction in the burden of armaments then weighing upon the world. Indeed, one of his proposals for 'open skies' is now being realized."

"And I am sure he would have been proud that it was two Republican presidents, President Reagan and President Bush, who brought his vision to fruition. He once said he no longer thought like an American, but like an ally. We in Britain owe him an immense debt."

The Prime Minister said that General Eisenhower had "shared our dark days and became an architect of our freedom... we counted him as one of us."

Mr Quayle said that Eisenhower represented the alliance. "He always did what he thought was right for America and what was right for the alliance and by doing what was right, he stood foursquare for peace and freedom." The Vice-President spoke about the "vast contribution" of Britain working with Mr Reagan and Mr Bush in seeing peace and freedom arrive in Europe.

Mr Quayle credited Mrs Thatcher and the presidents

for achieving Eisenhower's goal of "peace and freedom" in Europe, and used the occasion to emphasize the importance of the Nato alliance in maintaining it. "Now we must carry on with that victory," said Mr Quayle. "The future is going to be one that presents many challenges. There is no substitute for Nato. There is no substitute for peace and freedom."

Later, Mr Quayle spent an hour in discussion with Mr Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary. Their talks covered mainly European issues, but they also discussed the issue of the Western hostages in Lebanon, and the Vice-President confirmed that Washington had not engaged in any deals to gain the freedom of the recently released American captives.

During the day, Mr Quayle met a cross-section of political and business leaders at a breakfast meeting, a lunch at the American Ambassador's residence and then at a reception hosted by Mr Bernard Weatherill, the Speaker of the House of Commons, before he flew on to Paris for the final leg of his three-nation tour.



The minder: A US security man in Downing Street yesterday for the visit of Vice-President Quayle

Israel rejects plea to aid hostages by freeing Arabs

From Richard Owen, Jerusalem

ISRAEL yesterday risked further US anger over hostages in Lebanon by turning down a plea from the sister of Mr Terry Anderson, one of the Americans still held, to release some of the 400 Muslim Shia prisoners under Israeli control in order to keep up the momentum of hostage releases.

In a statement which appears to put paid for the time being to hopes of a comprehensive deal, Israel said there could be no equation between innocent civilians held hostage by kidnap gangs in Lebanon and Israel's Muslim prisoners.

Mr Avi Pazner, a senior adviser to Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Prime Minister, said Israel's Arab "detainees" — some held by Israel itself and some by the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) — had been captured while

attempting acts of terror and war on Israel's northern border. Mr Pazner said Israel would take part in a prisoner swap, but only if it included freedom for the three Israeli servicemen believed to be held captive by Muslim Shia groups in Lebanon. In an ominous mirror-image of Israel's position, Lebanese Shia groups said Israel's prisoners of war were in a different category from Western hostages and therefore could not form part of any exchange.

Mrs Peggy Say, the sister of Mr Anderson, the former Associated Press bureau chief in Beirut, had pleaded with Israel to free some of its prisoners and so meet the condition for further releases laid down not only by the kidnappers but also by Iran and Syria. But Israel Radio said Mr Moshe Arad, Israel's Ambassador in Washington, had been instructed by Jerusalem to reply that "Israel can only deal with governments, not with individuals".

On Sunday both Senator Robert Dole and Senator Daniel Moynihan called on Israel to release its Muslim "hostages". At a press conference for the two US hostages released recently, Senator Moynihan said Israel could not "hold hostages against international law, international claims and humanitarian demands". He added: "We hope they hear us."

But in a response published here yesterday, Mr Pazner said: "Israel stresses that the detainees it holds are not hostages but terrorists. There is no place for any comparison between them and hostages who are innocent citizens abducted by Hezbollah and Lebanese organizations operating under instructions or guidance from Iran."

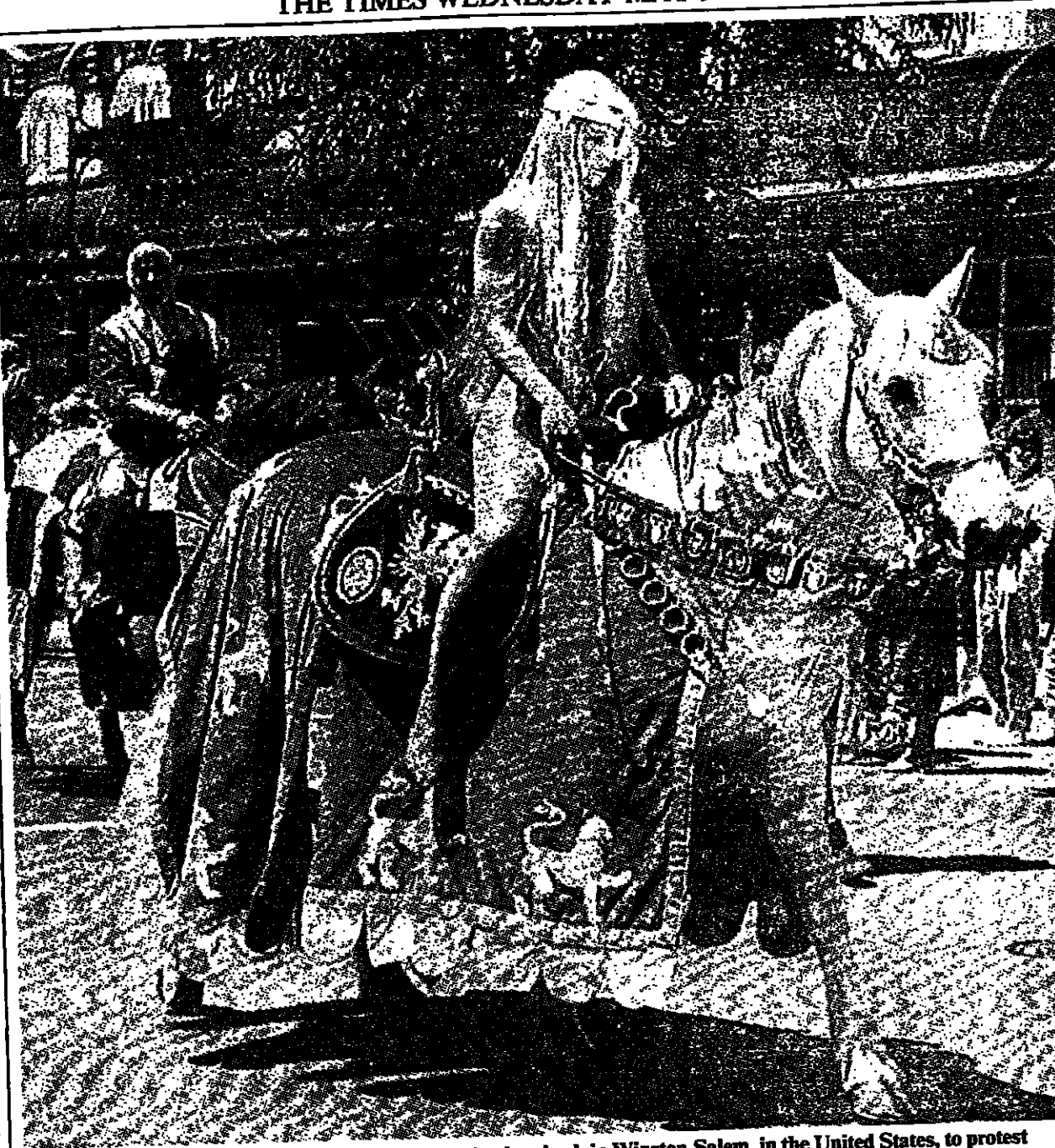
● **BEIRUT:** A prominent Shia Muslim fundamentalist leader yesterday stepped up psychological pressure on Israel and the US saying that the stalemate in the hostage crisis could drag on for another year and perhaps even provoke the death of one of the foreign captives (Juan Carlos Gummucio writes).

Reflecting the frustration of the kidnappers, Mr Hussein Musawi, the leader of the Baalbek-based "Islamic Amal" organization, condemned what he described as "the negative American stance". He raised the possibility that Professor Robert Polhill and Mr Frank Reed, the two Americans freed last month, could well be the last foreign hostages to be released in 1990.

Later, in another interview with a Western news agency, he went further, saying that if it is confirmed that four Iranians who were kidnapped by Phalangist gunmen in 1982 are dead, revenge could be taken by killing one of the Western hostages.

● **WASHINGTON:** Mr Anderson, the longest held of the Western hostages, helped fellow prisoners make Scrabble and Monopoly games to amuse themselves, according to Mr Reed. (AP)

Conor Cruise O'Brien, page 14



Living legend: A modern-day Lady Godiva riding bareback in Winston-Salem, in the United States, to protest against a property tax rise. A crowd of 13,000 turned out to watch. According to legend, Lady Godiva rode nude through the streets of Coventry in 1028 to persuade her husband, the Earl of Leicester, to cut taxes

Fate of mayor hangs on a hair

From Susan Elliott, Washington

IF MR Marion Barry, Washington's disgraced mayor, emerges unscathed from his forthcoming trial for alleged drug use he may wish to thank his hairdresser, even though prosecutors this week disclosed that a sample of hair, taken from Mr Barry's head

the night of his arrest four months ago on charges of smoking crack cocaine, revealed he used the drug repeatedly during the previous six weeks.

Mr Barry's lawyers, clearly worried, are seeking to have the hair sample barred as inadmissible in court when their client stands trial next month on charges of perjury and possession of cocaine in 1988 and last January. The prosecution thinks they now have a clear case. The defence can only hope a jury concludes that six weeks of crack smoking does not prove that Mr Barry took drugs as far back as 1988. If acquitted, Mr Barry may be glad he wore his hair short.

The city's tough-talking district attorney, Mr Jay Stephens, describes the chemical hair analysis as the hardest evidence to date in his case against the mayor, who was arrested in a sting operation at a Washington hotel.

The laboratory results look set to damage the defence's contention that police set up their client. Mr Barry denies ever using cocaine but has admitted dependency on and received treatment for alcoholism and abuse of prescription drugs. Intelligence officers arrested him last

January after filming him on videotape smoking crack with an ex-girlfriend, Ms Hazel Diane "Rasheda" Moore, a former model who flew in from Los Angeles to co-operate with the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The hair sample is crucial to the prosecution in their assertion that Mr Barry was predisposed to drug use and was not entrapped. The US Attorney for the District of Columbia, where Mr Barry is charged, this week intensified his case against the mayor by revealing in court documents that he has found more than a dozen people to testify that Mr Barry has used illegal narcotics over the past six years.

Mr Stephens said the hair sample was "extremely persuasive evidence that he was not induced to smoke crack against his will".

Mr Barry, one of the most important and controversial of America's black politicians, shows characteristic non-chalance about the latest tit-bits against him. He has ignored criticism from Washington's largest newspapers for most of his 12 years in office. Accusing whites of mounting a conspiracy against him, Mr Barry has worked instead in a city divided by bitter racial politics to build support in poor, mainly black neighbourhoods.

One section of the black community feels his arrest shows he failed as a role model for struggling youngsters in a city swamped by addiction and America's highest murder rate.

Thousands held after Moroccan protest

From Susan MacDonald, Paris

POLICE in the Moroccan capital, Rabat, were reported yesterday to have detained an estimated 2,000 outlawed Islamic fundamentalists staging an unprecedented demonstration in the centre of the city as six of their leaders were due to appear in court.

A Reuters reporter saw police and men in plain clothes beating those arrested. The six leaders were arrested in January and their Islamic movement was banned. At the same time numbers of their followers were picked up in cities all over Morocco. In February the six were sentenced to between nine months and two years imprisonment for belonging to an illegal organization but were not brought from prison to the court to attend the hearing.

Amnesty International aroused the Moroccan authorities' wrath in March by issuing a damning report on prison torture and abuses of justice for all types of prisoners in the country.

The size of yesterday's protest by people who knew they would be arrested shows a surge in Moroccan Islamic fundamentalism.

It is clear that King Hassan is now hard-pressed to contain this. His policy, in his role as Defender of the Faith, of keeping Islam strictly under his wing and dealing severely with attempts to form extremist Islamic groups, is no longer sufficient.

Paris welcomes Rainbow ruling

From Philip Jacobson, Paris

FRANCE hastened to close the curtain on the Rainbow Warrior affair yesterday after accepting the strong criticism by an international tribunal of its decision to release the French agents who sank the Greenpeace ship, Rainbow Warrior, in Auckland harbour almost five years ago.

The Quai d'Orsay said France rejoiced in the settlement of a problem that had severely affected relations with New Zealand. The tribunal's recommendations would be accepted — including a suggestion that France pay an initial \$2 million (£1.2 million) into a joint fund intended to foster "close and friendly relations between citizens of the two countries" — and it noted "with satisfaction" that this appeared to close the affair.

But in Wellington, Mr David Lange, who was Prime



Mr Lange: Angered by threats from Paris

Minister of New Zealand at the time of the bombing, accused France of economic blackmail to force an agreement transferring the bombers to French control.

In a television interview Mr Lange said his Government was told export access for its farm products to France would end unless it accepted a United Nations-sponsored accord under which the two agents were transferred to the Pacific atoll of Hao.

Mr Lange said the threat had come from "the highest level" of the French Government. "The end of (export) access was promised. What that means is 245,000 tonnes of sheep meat and I think in those days 80,000 tonnes of butter."

The Rainbow Warrior was blown up in Auckland harbour in July, 1985, killing a Dutch photographer, as the vessel was about to sail to the French island of Mururoa in a protest against nuclear testing. The two agents, Commandant Alain Mafart and Captain Dominique Prieur, were sentenced by a New Zealand court in 1985 to 10 years' imprisonment after admitting sabotage and manslaughter.

After the 1986 UN accord, under which France paid New Zealand compensation, New Zealand agreed to commute the sentences if the two were confined on Hao for three years, but M Jacques Chirac's Conservative Government brought them home in a desperate (and futile) bid to swing the 1988 presidential election in France.

Japan whale researchers sell catch

Tokyo — A Japanese institute which hunts whales for research purposes sold its season's catch on local wholesale markets, where dwindling supplies have made whale-meat as expensive as beef. Officials of the Japanese Cetacean Institute said that the proceeds would be used to fund more hunting trips for research. However, environmentalists claim that the yearly Japanese hunt is nothing but commercial whaling in disguise. (Reuters)

Prague purge

Prague — Mr Richard Sacher, the Czechoslovak Interior Minister, removed 35 department heads of the nation's new intelligence services because of leaks of sensitive information, the official CTK news agency reported. (AFP)

Americans held

Bangkok — A Hong Kong-based American publisher, Mr Michael Morrow, and another US citizen have been arrested by the Vietnamese authorities on unspecified charges and are being held in Ho Chi Minh City, friends said. (AP)

Hotel guards

Colombo — The Sri Lankan Army will guard hotels around the island after gunmen robbed tourists of valuables and cash worth £15,000 at the resort of Sigiriya over the weekend. The Government announced. (Reuters)

Sister survivor

Sydney — A woman pregnant with twins gave birth to a healthy girl after doctors aborted the other foetus because it had thalassaemia, a potentially fatal genetic disorder. The Medical Journal of Australia reported. (Reuters)

Costly Tehran

Geneva — The Iranian capital, Tehran, has by far the most expensive cost of living of any city in the world, says the annual survey issued by the Corporate Resources Group. It is almost twice as expensive as London.

Seaside buffs

Moscow — Latvian nudists founded their own association during a meeting on a beach at Riga, the Communist Party daily, *Komsomolskaya Pravda*, reported. (AFP)

Peace breaks out in black and blue battle of the badges

NEW YORK NOTEBOOK by Charles Bremner

Belfast, Beirut and San Salvador have their rival armies; so does New York, but with a twist — they both work for the city. The bitter feud between the police and fire departments — respectively known as New York's finest and bravest — has long provided a comic and sometimes tragic subplot to the daily theatre of the Big Apple.

On Sunday, Mayor David Dinkins mediated a shaky peace, proclaiming: "If the Berlin Wall has crumbled and Nelson Mandela is out of jail, we can have peace between the police and the firemen." Like all "battle of the badges" is over territory and power. Specifically, it is about which of the two proud corps gets to run the show at the scene of an accident.

Until Sunday, if you were trapped in a smashed car or a lorry dumped toxic chemicals on your doorstep, you had to hope one of the two services rescued you before the other arrived. Other than the boys in blue and black, the boys in white and red were likely to spend vital time squabbling for the honour of performing the rescue. In recent months, the rivalry has erupted into public brawls between the two services and even a shoot-out.

In circumstances still unexplained, shots were exchanged on the West Side of Manhattan in the March between officers of the fire and police services after firemen ordered two plainclothes police-



Mr Dinkins: Living up to his reputation as a conciliator

men to move their car out of the way of a hydrant. In the worst incident, a Japanese tourist drowned in the East River in May, 1988 a few yards from the shore while jealous police officers refused to let firemen from the fire department swim to release him from an overturned helicopter. Two days later, Mr Benjamin Ward, the former police chief, and Mr Joseph Bruno, the then fire commissioner, came to blows at a press conference.

On Sunday, Mr Dinkins, who won office last year on his reputation as a conciliator, ham-

pered out a pact between the two new chiefs of the services. The fire brigade will take charge of building collapses, chemical spills, floods and gas and water main emergencies. The police will pre-empt bomb threats, water rescues and car crashes.

"The people have won," Mr Dinkins declared diplomatically. While both sides grumbled about the justice of the carve-up, the press held up the example of the two Teemsma brothers, Richard, the policeman, and Jim, the fireman, were hailed for working together to release a trapped motorist on Sunday. "They embraced when the job was done," reported the *New York Post*. "It's like the Civil War when the families get together," said Richard.

When the CBS television network launched *Doghouse MD*, a series last autumn about a cute teenage doctor, many viewers shunned it as just too far-fetched, even by the fanciful standards of the American sitcom. Now a real Doogie Howser has turned up in New York to worry the medical authorities.

Bala Ambati is a 12-year-old genius who is just completing the third year in the pre-medical course at New York University. If he keeps to his current speed, he will qualify as a doctor at 17, displacing the 18-year-old Israeli

who holds the record in the Guinness book. The boy says he set his sights on medicine after suffering scalds from boiling water at the age of three. "After that, I started to think about assuaging human suffering."

However, some of the medical school professors are worried that neither Bala, who was born in India, nor the world, may be ready for a 17-year-old practitioner. Mr Robert Lancaster, his chemistry teacher, noted that the boy cries when he fails to do well in the laboratory. "I worry about his having to go through that and medical school at the same time."

Other staff members depict Bala as the victim of over-ambitious parents. His father, an engineer, and his mathematician mother taught him arithmetic in the cradle and calculus by the age of four. But he is impatient with the teachers who urge him to slow down. He dismisses criticism by citing the family's first law of physics: "Administrators and bureaucrats equal inertia. If I were in the seventh grade (at school) now, my mind would be rotting."

New York may fancy itself as the raw, beating heart of the known universe, but when it comes to local sensitivities, it can work itself into a tizzy worthy of the tiniest of parishes.

The latest municipal potter has erupted around Mr Jimmy Breslin, the dean of local col-

umnists, an irascible type who has chronicled the seamy side of the town for decades. On Thursday he grumbled in his column in the *New York Daily News*, that Miss Ronnie Eldridge, his wife, had little time left for housework since she was elected to the city council. His "anti-feminist" remarks upset Miss Ji Yeon Yuh, a *Newsday* reporter, who complained to the editor. Stung that anyone should question his judgement, Mr Breslin threw a tantrum, re-counted in detail on television news, calling Miss Yuh, among other things, "a yellow cur".

In a memo that made the pages of every other newspaper, he wrote: "Next I'll have the window cleaner commenting on my sentence structure." By Sunday, despite a half-hearted apology, Mr Breslin, a Pulitzer Prize winner, was the subject of mass demonstrations by feminist and Asian-American groups all demanding his resignation. Mayor Dinkins deplored the Breslin remarks on television. On Monday, five state legislators demanded the dismissal of Mr Breslin from the newspaper but Mr Mario Cuomo, the Governor, stepped in, saying: "There's nobody I know who is less of a racist, less ethnic. He is a champion of open-mindedness and objectivity."

Mr Breslin tried to extricate himself by explaining in his column that he had a foul temper, a quality which he said was the

prime qualification for a good columnist. "Rage is the only quality that has kept me or anybody I have ever studied writing columns for newspapers." Besides, he was only joking about his wife.

More disturbing for the city's Korean community than Mr Breslin's verbal assault on Miss Yuh is the ugly racial showdown going on in Brooklyn between local black residents and Korean grocers. For a week, hundreds of chanting blacks have picketed two grocers' shops in the Flatbush district, calling the Korean owners "blood-suckers" and demanding that they move out.

The demonstrations, which started after a black woman claimed she had been maltreated by a Korean, reflect the resentment felt by many blacks towards the Far East families who have virtually cornered the market in 24-hour "convenience" food stores across New York. On Tuesday, the demonstrators, led by Mr Sonny Carson, a notorious "street activist", defied a court order to stop their picketing.

Like Mr Breslin, Mr Carson does not mince words. Accused the other day of being anti-Semitic, he replied: "Hell no, I am anti-white." Mayor Dinkins is now trying to forget he paid Mr Carson to help get out the black vote in his election last year.

Capital for the Tories

Martin Jacques

The London effect again struck with a vengeance in last week's local elections. Outside London, the Conservatives were given a drubbing, with an average swing to Labour of about 11 per cent. In London, the swing was about 5 per cent, far the lowest in the country (except Scotland) and much lower than in the south of England generally.

More than a fifth of the key parliamentary marginals are in London, so if Labour does as badly there in the general election as it did last week, its chances of winning will be much slimmer.

How to explain the London effect of May 1990? There is no single answer, because that 5 per cent average swing conceals an extraordinary variety of outcomes. Westminster and Wandsworth saw shifts of 7 per cent to the Conservatives, while Labour did very well in Merton, which it captured, and Islington. Certainly the legacy of Labour's loony left image still lingers, and was a powerful factor in the loss of Brent and probably Ealing. But it does not explain why Labour made a net advance in Haringey.

Such a myriad of results requires a variety of explanations. Where rates were already high, then a high poll tax was more acceptable, providing of course that the reputation of the council was not hopelessly out of bounds (Haringey, Lambeth). If the council was seen to provide good services and value for money, this was a powerful asset (Islington, Lewisham). If the poll tax was much higher than the rates were previously, then — unlike the rest of the country, where it hurt the Government — in London it tended to hurt the council (Brent, Ealing). And finally, if the poll tax was breathtakingly low, you could not afford not to vote Conservative (Wandsworth, Westminster).

But none of this explains why the unevenness was confined to London. Why did voters in the capital pick and choose with such discretion and not elsewhere? The answer, I think, lies in London's peculiar nature. Unlike people elsewhere, Londoners do not identify themselves with their home city. There is no sense of civic pride commensurate with that in, say, Sheffield or Manchester. Nor do people identify themselves with their local borough. It is merely a political unit, not a source of belonging. Londoners spend much of their lives travelling from one borough to another, without knowing or caring which they happen to be in.

As a result, Londoners probably have a more narrowly-based attitude towards their local council than people elsewhere. They are looking for value for money, and not much more. Furthermore, this tendency has probably accelerated. The old working-class communities, once characteristic of so many boroughs had a greater

sense of local belonging, and this engendered a greater expectation of the council. In contrast, young newcomers in search of job and career, whom London attracts in large numbers, have little sense of their locality.

It is these latter changes that take us to the heart of the London effect. Whatever the vagaries of the 1990 results, it is far from a new phenomenon. It first surfaced in its contemporary form in October 1974 when the previously high Liberal vote switched to the Tories in nationally disproportionate numbers. It figured very strongly in 1979 when London went significantly more Tory than the rest of the country. And in 1987 it happened again. So, for almost two decades, London has been edging rightwards rather more than the national average. As a result, London, rivalled only by Bristol, is now the most Conservative city in Britain. In other large cities, the Conservatives have few or no MPs; in London they now have a comfortable majority — a reversal of the situation in the 1960s, when Labour enjoyed that position.

A central factor in this change is surely the substantial demographic shift of the last 20 or so years. During that period, London's population generally has fallen, but the fall has been most pronounced among the skilled manual working class — down by a third in the 1970s alone. The numbers of the unskilled and semi-skilled have also fallen, though somewhat less, and so has the lower middle class. Only the professional and managerial groups have held their numbers, and thereby substantially increased their proportion.

London's social structure has shifted upwards. This process has accelerated in the 1980s, with a particularly big expansion in the financial services sector, and therefore in the numbers of the private-sector middle class. As a consequence, London now has a social make-up very different from that of other cities.

These trends are reflected, in varying degrees, in the changing social composition of the inner-London boroughs. Islington was characteristic of an earlier phase of this process, being favoured by Labour-inclined graduates of the 1960s and early 1970s. Wandsworth is archetypal of the changes of the last decade, attracting the new private-sector professional groups which have generally been more Thatcherite in outlook.

None of this is to suggest that demographic change is the only factor behind the London effect, or that the move to the right is irreversible. But you cannot make sense of the London effect without taking these factors into account. And it clearly demonstrates that it is a nonsense to argue that Labour's London problem is simply a legacy of the loony left.

...and moreover

CRAIG BROWN

Three years ago, in a human suffering index, Mozambique was named the most miserable country on earth. In an article for the current edition of *The Spectator*, Mr Graham Lord returns to Mozambique, the country of his childhood, and does indeed find it pretty awful.

He finds children scavenging in the gutter for food; he finds sewage lying stagnant in the Grande Hotel. The average weekly wage for those in employment will buy a bag of apples or 60 cigarettes. A bicycle costs five years' wages. Dogs howl and a fierce stench clings to the air.

But lo! Mr Lord brings glad tidings! "All is not quite lost," he reports. "There's no television, for a start, and the hungry children will doubtless remember their childhoods as nostalgically as I."

One can almost hear the sighs of relief heaving from the mouths of *Spectator* readers around the country at this joyous news. Just so long as there is no television to distract the children of Mozambique through their diligent searchings through the gutter, things can't be all bad. If, say, *Blue Peter* or *Captain Pugwash* made a sudden appearance on a flickering screen, these children might find their future nostalgia for those rosy days of childhood gutter-scavenging quite ruined.

And what if their parents allowed them to stay up late in the hope, perhaps, of discovering a discarded chicken bone, and what if they then, poor dears, caught sight of *Top of the Pops* through an uncurtained window? The thought is too hideous to contemplate: the innocence of childhood shattered at a stroke. But without television, such a nightmare scenario simply cannot occur, and Mr Lord may sleep easy.

I wonder, though, whether Mr Lord himself has not taken the occasional peek at a television set. Not in his own house of course — I don't suspect for one minute that he would be so hypocritical as to rejoice in its absence from the gutters of Mozambique while secreting one in his very own sitting room — but I wonder whether he really has never enjoyed a single television programme.

I only wonder because I have noticed in the past that many who proclaim themselves most astutely against television are, oddly enough, those who watch it the most. It is impossible to know, of course, what some see as the definitive book against television (blaming it for the downfall of Western Civilisation, etcetera), without hearing the strains of *Gloria Live* or the lunchtime *Neighbours* waiting down the stairs. I sometimes think that it is as if the founding members of the Temperance League were all, in the privacy of their own homes, enthusiastic alcoholics.

Born in 1957, I have never known a time without television. My nostalgia for childhood mixes quite cheerfully with a nostalgia for childhood television: *The Flintstones*, *Bill and Ben*, *The Magic Boat*, *Orlando* and *Batman* still mean far more to me than dull wooden building blocks and those dreadfully improving Janet and John books in which an entire plot revolves around whether Rover would manage to fetch his red ball. Just as Charles Dickens said that Little Red Riding Hood was his first love, and that if he could have married her he would have known perfect bliss, so a large proportion of my own generation feel the same about Valerie Singleton and *Blue Peter*, or even Wilma Finstone.

I know of no one of my generation whose life has not been enriched by television. One of my greatest friends first attracted my wife by claiming he had been the original Milky Bar Kid. She fell in love with him on the strength of it. Only after they were married did he tell her the truth. While reading theology at Oxford, my brother James never missed an episode of *Crossroads*, *Coronation Street* or *Emmerdale Farm*; before the onset of television, he would have had to fall back on fooling around with teddy bears, as the Brideshead Generation was forced to do. I am less picky than my brother: I watch and enjoy anything that isn't snooker and doesn't feature Jeffrey Archer. Though well-housed and well-fed, my little daughter will watch even them. All is lost, Mr Lord, all is lost.

David Willetts takes a close look at the official figures—and finds many of them wanting

No, the poor are not getting poorer

Yesterday *The Times* reported that some of the Government's figures for low incomes from 1981 to 1985 were wrongly calculated. Actually, the poorest 10 per cent of the population did less well than the original figures suggested. This error was revealed in a parliamentary answer on April 4, and is discussed in detail in today's report from the Commons social services committee.

This is not the first and will not be the last error in the measurement or interpretation of poverty statistics. They are notoriously unreliable, because information is based on a survey of the family expenditure of 7,000 people, the main purpose of which is to measure what we spend our money on so that proper weightings can be given to goods and services in the Retail Price Index.

It is rumoured, for example, that one year the statisticians discovered that the income of single parents because their sample included a woman whose husband was abroad and sent her a hefty income. So she was removed from

the following year's sample and as a result there appeared to be a dramatic fall in the incomes of single parents, which misled even reputable researchers into producing well-publicised papers on the falling incomes of single parents.

Some good will come from this latest episode if future statistics in this sensitive area are treated more cautiously. There is no error-proof measure of poverty, and some commentators build grandiose arguments about the evils of Thatcherism on very limited data. Here is a do-it-yourself guide to poverty measures.

Do you want to measure incomes before or after housing costs? This government focuses on the total incomes of poor people before deducting housing costs and the benefits which help to meet them. This recent error only really affects the figures for income after housing costs, which is not at all the way most people measure their income.

Do you want to measure mean or median income? The change in the mean income of the poorest 10 per cent of the population is very different from the change in the

mid-person of that group. The figures based on means are more volatile and more prone to distortion by extreme individual cases. As a result the Government has just begun to publish data based on median incomes too.

Are you concerned about low incomes or about destitution? We can all see that there are more young people sleeping rough in central London now than 10 years ago. That is a terrible and complicated problem going back to higher rates of family break-up, the long-term effects of rent controls, and the policy of releasing people from long-stay mental institutions. But it is no guide to how the millions of people on low incomes are faring.

We will get a better picture of low incomes in a few weeks' time, when the Government publishes data for the whole period 1979-1987, but meanwhile the figures show that the percentage rise in the total disposable income before housing costs of the person in the middle of the poorest 10 per cent of the population was 5 per cent in the period 1981-85, just the same as for the mid point of the whole

income scale. Using mean figures, the income of the poorest 10 per cent before housing costs has risen by 9 per cent, whereas that of the population as a whole has risen by 7 per cent. Despite the huffing and puffing, by these measures the poor have enjoyed a rise in real incomes broadly in line with that of the whole population. That is hardly the basis for saying that the Government's policies have failed.

After clearing away these statistical disputes, what can we say about poverty in this country? The social security system has been under enormous strain over the past 10 years because of three dramatic social changes: the high level of unemployment during most of the period, the rise in the number of old people, and the rise in the number of single parents. All of these groups tend to be disproportionately dependent on social security for their incomes, so, as their numbers increase, the Government finds itself spending more and more on social security simply in order to maintain their living standards. Because of the increases in numbers in these

groups, the poorer half of the population now gets about half of its total incomes from the state.

We can hope that these strains on the social security system will diminish during the 1990s. Unemployment has been falling for nearly three years, and consequently we are at last seeing a reduction in the number of unemployment benefit claimants. Despite the popular belief that the number of old people is rising rapidly, the number of over-65s will be virtually unchanged until early in the next century (having risen by over a million during the 1980s). The group that continues to proliferate is the single parents — hence the Government's concern with the issue. But here too demographic change is reducing the number of potential young single mothers, who are the ones most dependent on benefit.

Patterns of poverty are affected above all by these big social changes. Addressing them is much more fruitful than arguing about the details of inherently unreliable data.

The author is director of studies at the Centre for Policy Studies.

No dialogue, no reward — just total isolation

A ripple of joy ran through the bazaars of Tehran last week as word went out that the most powerful of the English ayatollahs had thrown his weight behind the Khomenei *fatwa* on Salman Rushdie.

True, that is not precisely what Dr Runcie said in his broadcast last Wednesday; but then, bazaars are bazaars. According to a report in this newspaper, last Friday: "The pressure on Mrs Thatcher intensified with an intervention by Dr Robert Runcie, the Archbishop of Canterbury. 'I believe the time has come for the governments of the UK and Iran to talk directly to each other to see how progress can be made,' he said. ... Although he described the Government's policy as sound and said that nothing should be done to reward the kidnappers, he called for dialogue with Iran."

Unfortunately, if nothing is to be done to reward either the kidnappers themselves or their Iranian paymasters, who "influence" them, the dialogue, if it occurs at all, will end abruptly, as soon as the Iranians discover that no reward is in sight. The hostages were kidnapped in the expectation of eventual reward, and they will be released only in the expectation of prompt reward.

The two American hostages released during the past two weeks may or may not have been released in exchange for a promise, or half-promise, of reward from the United States; but they were certainly released on an Iranian calculation aimed at acquiring rewards.

The calculation was the well-founded one that the releases would be accompanied by huge publicity in the media, and that this publicity, taking account of the entreaties of the families of those hostages still held, must greatly increase the pressures on the Western governments concerned, and thus enhance the prospects of reward for the Iranian government "that is in a position to influence the kidnappers".

The Iranian government has made it quite clear that further releases of American hostages will be dependent on rewards from Washington. "The ball is in the US court," the semi-official *Tehran Times* said last week. Putting the same thought more unctuously at about the same



Conor Cruise O'Brien believes Dr Runcie is playing into terrorist hands by urging talks with Tehran

time, the Iranian foreign minister, Ali Akbar Velayati, said: "What is necessary now is deeds, not words. If words can be translated into deeds, then and only then will the Muslims of Lebanon continue their goodwill gestures."

"Deeds" means "rewards". The goodwill of the Muslims of Lebanon is of that special type that requires to be rewarded, and turns into ill will if the reward is inadequate. And the goodwill of the Muslims of Iran is of exactly the same type.

Obviously, the predicament of the hostages, their families and their friends is an agonizing one. It is intended to be so; that is what constitutes the leverage of all those "people of goodwill". Dr Runcie is involved in that predicament and none can blame him for joining in the entreaties which it is designed

to elicit. But we do have the right to ask whether the Government should move in the direction which Dr Runcie suggests.

What exactly is that direction? I think it is implicit in an omission from his stipulation about the kidnappers. "Nothing should be done to reward the kidnappers," he says. But he does not say that the paymasters and "influencers" of the kidnappers shall not be rewarded. In the context of advice that we should look for "dialogue" with Iran, this amounts to a hint that Iran should be rewarded for using its "influence" for the release of the British hostages. For Dr Runcie knows, as everyone else does, that the Iranian government will not use its "influence" except in the expectation of reward.

The principal obstacle to the "dialogue" which Dr Runcie

recommends is that Iran has broken off relations with Britain, because of Britain's failure to observe the *fatwa* of the late Imam Khomeini over *The Satanic Verses*. So, if the recommended dialogue takes place, the first item on the agenda has to be that *fatwa*, and the extent to which Britain is prepared to knuckle under to it.

Those bazaars I spoke of may have missed some of the nuances, but they got the general drift of the Archbishop's discourse.

As it happens, I am not an admirer either of Salman Rushdie or of his book, *The Satanic Verses* — title and all — was intended to enrage pious Muslims. In that enterprise, Mr Rushdie succeeded beyond his wildest dreams — and anyone who has ploughed through the book knows just how wild his dreams can be. Unfortunately, if

you enrage people, some people are likely to get hurt. Mr Rushdie personally is among those hurt, but he is not the worst victim. Others have died because of his book; at least two of them were Muslims, murdered for questioning the *fatwa*.

The world of letters would be no whit the worse if *The Satanic Verses* were to disappear. But the world of politics would be very much the worse if a Western government were to yield to terrorist blackmail and ban *The Satanic Verses* (whether formally or informally, the latter being the most likely).

Some argue that to move in the general direction desired by Iran would not be yielding to terrorism but, on the contrary, would strengthen the hand of the "moderate" Rafsanjani against the "hard-liners" in Tehran.

I find that argument sickeningly familiar. Nearly 20 years ago, both Harold Wilson and William Whitelaw convinced themselves that they had spotted "moderates" in the leadership of the Provisional IRA, and paid court to them. The only result of that courtship was to give a tremendous boost to the prestige and morale of the IRA as a whole, and so to establish terrorism as a quasi-permanent feature of life in these islands.

In the past few days, there have been reports that the Belgian government is contemplating the release of a convicted prisoner in exchange for the release of four Belgian hostages. The prisoner was convicted of throwing grenades into a crowd of Jewish schoolchildren. If that deal is consummated, it will put a premium on terrorism, and especially on anti-Jewish terrorism, throughout Europe.

President Rafsanjani is an arch-terrorist, since he is the paymaster of terrorist groups, and uses the hostages held by them as counters in a cruel political game. Until Iran desists from such practices, it should be isolated, not rewarded. For families of the present hostages, that is an intolerable doctrine, but if that doctrine is departed from, many other families, over many years, will have to endure similar pain. Mrs Thatcher's government is right to resist, and I hope it continues to do so.

Owen prepares an open exit

David Owen's enemies have often written him off before, only to see him bounce back to their confusion and consternation. But now even his most ardent supporters appear to be conceding that the game may be up. Word comes that the SDP has cancelled its provisional booking to hold its 1993 annual conference in Torquay. As this is more than a full year after the last date on which Mrs Thatcher can call the next general election, there is inevitable speculation that the SDP, possibly deprived of its entire parliamentary presence (currently standing at three), is preparing to vote itself out of existence immediately the election results are known. It has booked Torquay for next year — almost certainly the last conference before the general election — but has no plans for 1992 and has not made alternative arrangements for its cancelled 1993 booking.

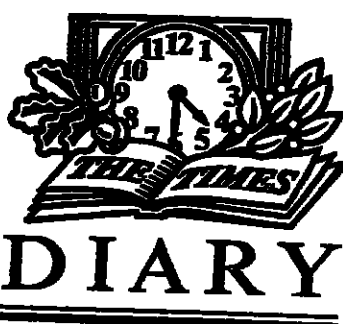
To rub salt into the wound, the Liberal Democrats, who had also sought the Torquay venue for 1993, only to be told that Owen had beaten them to it, have now taken up the booking. But the Liberal Democrats, while scenting blood, are being gentlemanly and declining to crow. "It is not a matter for us where they go," said a party spokesman soberly. The Green Party, however, is unintentionally putting the knife in. It has announced that it no longer intends to hold its conferences in Malvern because the venue is too small. Their place is being taken this year by the SDP.

When Sir Donald Bradman was here with the Australian cricket team in 1930, a young fan at home sent him a letter in an envelope bearing only his photograph and the words "somewhere on tour in England". The *GPO* rose to the challenge and delivered it. Sixty years on, the Australian postal service has found the opportunity to prove that it is equally efficient. It has just delivered a letter from an English cricket fan addressed merely: "Keith Miller, the Keith Miller, Australia".

Aiming for Rushdie

Alternative publishers are queuing to undertake the paperback publication of Salman Rushdie's *The Satanic Verses*, if Penguin, still undecided, finally backs down. Foremost among them is Granta, whose eponymous magazine was until recently published by Penguin and which still has a distribution deal with it. In an implicit attack on Penguin, Bill Buford of Granta says: "Only the most fly-livered publishers would not put their names to a paperback publication. The paperback has become an issue only because of the delay." A Granta publication, possibly in conjunction with other publishers with strong views on the subject, would definitely mean "some other distribution arrangement" for the work, he adds.

Meanwhile, the Cambridge Union carried a motion in support of paperback publication on Monday night, with Tim Waterstone, the bookseller, speaking in favour. Conceding that it would be "hideously painful even to extremely sophisticated Muslims" and that



he "hated the damage done to fragile community relations in Britain", Waterstone insisted, nevertheless, that "it is still a brilliant novel" and that the production process could not be regarded as complete without a British paperback publication.

Fid Def Eur Imp

The suggestion by Burke's *Peerage* that the problems of European union could be solved by bestowing on the Queen the title Empress of Europe will not commend itself to Jacques Delors and other socialist bureaucrats in Brussels. And the response from Britain's anti-EC lobby is decidedly frosty. Teddy Taylor, Tory MP and staunch upholder of national sovereignty, says: "As the titular head of an organization which allows an unelected commission to take the majority of decisions, the Queen would have to be renamed not the Empress but the Tsarina of Europe, to demonstrate the lack of democracy. Delors could bethe Tsar. The prospect of European union fills me with foreboding. The prospect of losing the Queen to the moguls

of Brussels makes it even more horrifying."

Harold Brooks-Baker, the publishing director of Burke's, also suggests a European House of Kings, modelled on the House of Lords, which would act as a moderating influence on over-ambitious politicians and a curb on the bureaucratic powers of Brussels. After all, says Brooks-Baker, royalty is much more in touch with the common man these days than are elected politicians.

Modesty compels me to recommend you to rule Europe



Seat in the squalls

The Hackney Empire, East London's theatrical home to such leftist causes as the striking miners, gay rights, the Nicaraguan Sandinistas and the Kurdish fight against repression, has been hit by a left-wing protest of its own. Hackney trade unions are demanding sanctions against the management for sacking an usherette who took part in an anti-poll tax demonstration when she left the theatre only during her tea break, and could not get back on time because of a police

cordon. Roland Muldoon, a Hackney Empire director, is unimpressed. "The unions think we should have closed down for the night and joined the poll tax demonstration," he says. "They seem to forget we have a theatre to run."

Bouncing Balts

With the Lithuanian prime minister in Britain this week, it is astonishing to contemplate the array of talent in British public life which can boast Lithuanian descent. Four recent government ministers, Malcolm Rifkind, Secretary of State for Scotland, Sir Leon Brittan, Lord Young of Graffham and Edwina Currie, all have Lithuanian antecedents. Other prominent "Lithuanians" include Sir John Gielgud and Sevciana Berisova, the ballerina. The founder of the Marks and Spencer empire, Michael Marks, was another, as was Lord Kagan, of Gannex raincoats and Harold Wilson fame.

The great majority of Britain's Lithuanians, of course, are the descendants of Jews whose ancestors fled anti-Semitic pogroms at the end of the 19th century, only briefly after experiencing even worse horrors elsewhere in Russia and in Poland. Today only between 2,000 and 3,000 people in Britain would describe themselves as Lithuanian; but, says Vladimir Dargis, editor of *Lithuanian Weekly*, there are almost certainly many more. "Perhaps the only way to locate them would be to announce income tax concessions for anyone who could prove Lithuanian descent," he suggests.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & PERSONAL

Obey faithfully all the laws that I have given you: love the Lord your God, do everything he commands and be faithful to him. Deuteronomy 10:12

BIRTHS

ANDERSON - On May 1st, to Emily (nee Astor) James, a son, Thomas Alexander.

BATES - On May 2nd, at Priory Hospital, Newcastle upon Tyne, to Michael and Carol (nee Whitfield), a son, Alexander William. A brother to Matthew.

BLACKBURN - On May 2nd 1990, at The Portland Hospital, to Gerald (nee Hogg) and Dennis, a son, Patrick.

CARTWRIGHT - On Friday, May 4th, in Newcastle, to Ann and Tim, a son, Nicholas Timothy. A brother to Alexander.

DAYMILL - On May 4th, at St Peter's Hospital, Chertsey, to Jane and Richard, a son, a brother to Elice.

CLAY - On Sunday April 29th, to Emma (nee Taylor), a daughter, Isabella.

DON - On April 25th, at Canterbury, to Catherine and Michael, a son, a daughter, Isabella.

FAUEN - On April 26th, at The Portland Hospital, to Joanne and Craig, a son, Joanne Alex, a brother to Gemma.

GLYNN DAVIES - On April 30th, at the Humana Hospital, Wellington, to Elizabeth and Jane, a daughter, Elina Smith. A daughter to Elina Smith.

MAWINS - On May 2nd, to Zilla and Michael, a son, Robert George. A brother to Alice, Hannah, Martha, Maude and William.

MOYLES - On May 4th 1990, to Alice (nee Robinson) and Nicholas, a son, William.

KIRKMAN - On May 4th 1990, at St Luke's Hospital, Guildford, to Carolyn (nee Houghton) and James, a son, Alexander Charles Hough.

LAMER - On May 6th 1990, at St. James' Hospital, to Elizabeth and John, a son, Edward Thomas, a brother to Eliza.

LEESMAN - On May 4th, at The Portland Hospital, to Lisa and John, a daughter, Lisa Rebecca.

LIN - On May 2nd 1990, at Exeter, to Theresa (nee Briggs) and Henry, a daughter, Emily.

MAHON - On May 3rd 1990, to Helen Louise and Peter, a daughter, Emily.

MILTON - On May 1st, at St John's Hospital, Chertsey, to R. and a daughter, Myra.

MONEY - On May 1st 1990, to Queen Charlotte's Hospital, to Hannah and Lora, a daughter.

NOBLE - On May 1st, to Nicola (nee Sim) and John, a daughter, Georgia Louise.

PELTZ - On May 5th, at The Portland Hospital, to Elizabeth (nee Wilson) and Daniel, a son, Maximilian.

PHILLIPS - On April 26th, at The Portland Hospital, to Gillian (nee Tait) and Wayne, a daughter, Charlotte Olivia.

PHILLIPS - See Cartwright.

RAHAM - On April 18th, to Nacy (nee Shamash) and Tom, a son, Oliver James.

REACHINGS - On May 1st 1990, to Queen Charlotte's Hospital, to Be (nee Elworthy) and Henrietta Mary.

SALEM - On Thursday May 3rd, at The Portland Hospital, to Doreen and Daniel, a daughter, Natalie Sarah.

SILVERTON - On May 4th, to Robyn (nee Farnham) and Ashley, a daughter, Hannah Jane. Thanks to all at the Rosie, Cambridge.

TAYLOR - On May 7th 1990, at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, to a daughter, Leonie.

THISTLETHWAITE - On April 27th, to Harriet and Thomas, a daughter, Harriet.

WARNES - On April 30th, to Charity (nee Farnham) and Jeremy, a daughter, Rachel.

WILLIS - On May 7th, at The Portland Hospital, to Victoria Emily and a daughter, Victoria Emily.

DEATHS

AYLESFORD - On May 5th, at home in London, Pamela Elizabeth, aged 85, widow of the late Mr. A. Aylesford, died peacefully at home. Burial at St. Andrew's Church, Aylesford, on Friday May 11th at 1.30 pm. Family flowers only. Donations to St. Andrew's Church, Aylesford, to the bereaved family.

FRISHER - On May 5th, at home, Francis, aged 79, widower of Patricia (nee Frisner), died peacefully at home. Burial at St. Andrew's Church, Aylesford, on Friday May 11th at 1.30 pm. Family flowers only. Donations to St. Andrew's Church, Aylesford, to the bereaved family.

RAINE - On Sunday May 6th 1990, very suddenly at home, Raymond, aged 75, very much loved husband of Mrs. Raine, died peacefully at home. Burial at St. Andrew's Church, Aylesford, on Friday May 11th at 1.30 pm. Family flowers only. Donations to St. Andrew's Church, Aylesford, to the bereaved family.

BARRETT - On May 4th, at St. Andrew's Church, Aylesford, died peacefully at home. Burial at St. Andrew's Church, Aylesford, on Friday May 11th at 1.30 pm. Family flowers only. Donations to St. Andrew's Church, Aylesford, to the bereaved family.

BISHOP - On May 7th 1990, at home, Bishop, aged 75, died peacefully at home. Burial at St. Andrew's Church, Aylesford, on Friday May 11th at 1.30 pm. Family flowers only. Donations to St. Andrew's Church, Aylesford, to the bereaved family.

BROOKLYN-DAVISON - On May 6th, at home, Brooklyn, aged 75, died peacefully at home. Burial at St. Andrew's Church, Aylesford, on Friday May 11th at 1.30 pm. Family flowers only. Donations to St. Andrew's Church, Aylesford, to the bereaved family.

BROWN - On May 7th 1990, at home, Brown, aged 75, died peacefully at home. Burial at St. Andrew's Church, Aylesford, on Friday May 11th at 1.30 pm. Family flowers only. Donations to St. Andrew's Church, Aylesford, to the bereaved family.

CLAY - On May 7th 1990, at home, Clay, aged 75, died peacefully at home. Burial at St. Andrew's Church, Aylesford, on Friday May 11th at 1.30 pm. Family flowers only. Donations to St. Andrew's Church, Aylesford, to the bereaved family.

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Simon Tait looks at the promising financial prospects of the Edinburgh Festival

Richer, brighter, busier

The dirge "Fifteen men on a dead man's chest" will be something of an anthem for Frank Dunlop in this year's Edinburgh Festival. There have been times in his seven years as director — a theatre man breaking a long line of music men in charge — when the chest seemed to be his own thorax, the breath being kicked out of it by local authorities, sponsors, critics, the arts establishment, the arts fringe, the music lobby, Edinburghers, Glaswegians, sometimes performers. A well-trod Dunlop.

The story before last year's festival was that he was ready to go, having almost resigned in the face of spiralling demands and dwindling funds. "I thought to myself 'What am I doing this for?' He had been one of the most successful British directors on Broadway, and a potential fortune to match the one made by Camelot in the 1970s beckoned.

Things have changed. Not only is he back for 1990, he has funds, staff, and an enthusiastic board. And he hopes to bring his Broad-

way touch to the festival with his own adaptation and direction of *Treasure Island*.

There is a good deal for him to "Yo ho ho" about: his new staff structure is taking shape under Nick Dodds, general manager for just three weeks; the internationalist principle which he said had been lost in a welter of politicking has been reaffirmed; he has more venues than before; he may even be able to trim down his board from its unwieldy size of 21.

It's so different. At last there's a bit of imagination coming into play. The district council has agreed to index-linked funding for three years and has increased its contribution for this year by 8 per cent to £650,000; the Scottish Arts Council's input is up to £553,000; Lothian, the regional authority, has come in for the first time with £100,000 in direct grant, and £50,000 in exhibition sponsorship; there is £600,000 in sponsorship alone, and last year's 72 per cent seat sales (80 per cent for the music) has provided more than £1.5 million for this year.

But there is still no opera house. "We're moving on that too. We might have it for next year; the district council are talking about it. They say to me, 'Why are you so angry?' At least we're considering it now." I say, "Yes, but I haven't got it yet and I've been on about it for eight years."

Yesterday Dunlop announced the joint themes for 1990: Czechoslovakia and the Pacific. This week he goes to Czechoslovakia to see his hero Alexander Dubček in Bratislava, to persuade him, elections permitting, to come when the Slovak National Opera and Ballet do *Faust*, and *Prince Igor* with the full folkloric choreography. Dunlop may also see the pianist Firkusny, back in Prague this week for the first time after fleeing communism, who will perform at the festival two pieces written for him by Martinu, as well as plenty of Dvořák. The violinist Joseph Suk, too, will also take part.

But there will be nothing by the Czech playwright-president Václav Havel. Why do the obvious? says Dunlop. As so often in the past, his critics are likely to reply "Why not?"

Last year there was much uncomfortable talk about competition from 40 miles down the road, with hatchets being either buried or sharpened. "Well, we've cracked it," declares Dunlop, gaily revealing his forthcoming delights in the middle of Glasgow's own Mayfest. "The Bolshoi Opera are coming to Britain for the first time, and Glasgow and the festival are going to share them."

The massive company, complete with 120-piece orchestra, will cram itself into the Playhouse to play Prokofiev's *Duenna*. "It's the biggest thing in the festival, the biggest opera event in Britain in 1990. And it's the two cities working together. Fantastic."

After a plethora of *Macbeths* in recent years, officially there are

none this time — at least so far as Dunlop knows, although Ricky Demarco's own little island treasure, his Highland *Macbeth* on the Isle of Inchcolm in the Firth of Forth, is going ahead again.

There will be two productions of *Leah*, one an Indian Kathakali dance version, the other by Kenneth Branagh's Renaissance Theatre Company, which will also give *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. There will be puppets from the Guatemalan company of New York, and puppetry and mime from the Frenchman Philippe Genty.

Following the festival tradition that themes exist to be broken, Nureyev will dance with the Cleveland-San Jose Ballet Company in Gogol's *Overcoat* and as Dr Coppélius in *Coppélia*.

The Pacific, especially English-speaking foreign theatre, has been a Dunlop passion, and Australia, New Zealand, the US, Japan and Korea will be represented. Mike Leigh will direct the Australian Theatre company in Greek tragedy, and the Auckland Theatre Company is bringing its *Hedda Gabler*.

Dunlop was beaten in his search for a Scottish Pacific play until he remembered Robert Louis Stevenson and *Treasure Island*. "It's just the best: a brilliant novel, and I hadn't realized that it's practically all dialogue. We're going to turn the Assembly Hall into an all-singing all-dancing Pacific island. We'll have the traditional sea songs that Vaughan Williams arranged, and plenty of 'Fifteen men on a dead man's chest'. The finale is a great Mexican fiesta; people forget that's at the end of the book."

"It's extremely cruel in places. But people are, aren't they?"

● The 1990 Edinburgh Festival runs from August 12 to September 2. For a programme, contact the Festival Office on 031-226 4001.



Frank Dunlop: Faces the 1990 Edinburgh Festival with enthusiasm

Thumping good time guaranteed

JOHN CHAPMAN

CONCERT

Richard Morrison

Kodo Drummers Sadler's Wells

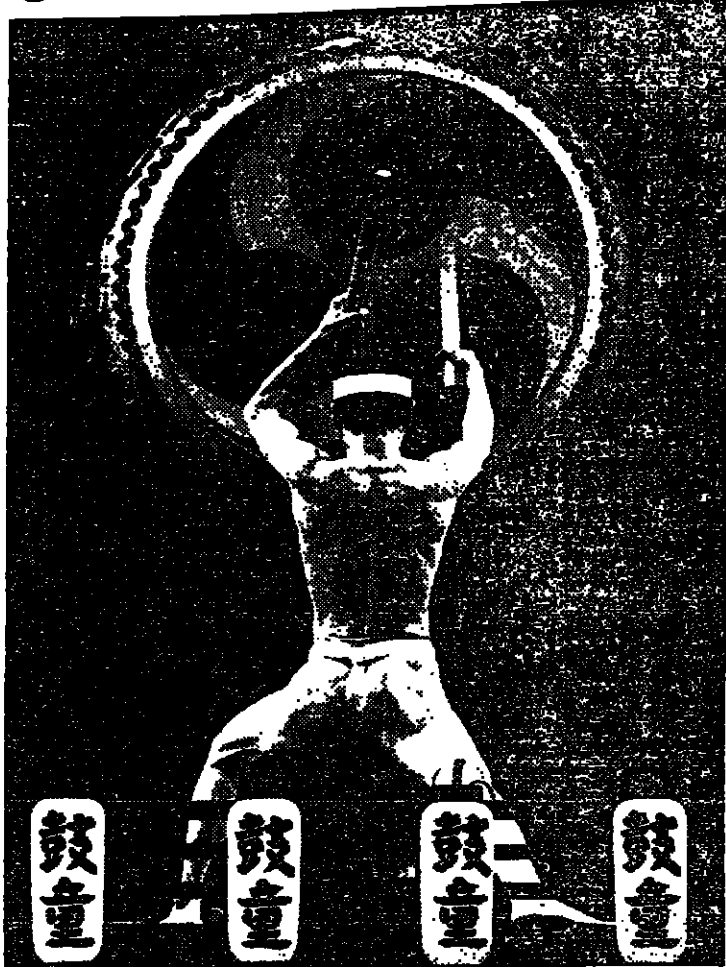
AS ANY parent of a two-year-old child will confirm, the urge to strike a toy drum, mightily and often, is among the most basic of all creative impulses (I use the word "creative" in its unrefined educational sense). Even so, it is surprising to find one of London's major theatres booked for two weeks by a group of nearly-naked Japanese men banging drums.

Nor is this the first time. In the last decade, Kodo have made frequent excursions to London, New York and various other dens of Western decadence from their monastic island community in the Sea of Japan. There, the performers are said to train for their 90-minute aural assaults with a range of ascetic practices: daily 20-mile runs, drinking only water from mountain streams, and so on.

Then they invoke various pre-Buddhist *Shinto* rites, involving drawing energy from the earth. They infuse a range of wonderfully carved drums with the spirits of ancient gods — and proceed to beat the hell out of them.

The best way to describe the effect of listening to six men hurling blow after blow at three *chudai* drums (two to a drum, superbly and subtly synchronized) is to say that it is like being sandbagged around the head and chest for 15 minutes at a time. It would probably be cheaper to buy a sandbag and have the experience administered in private, but then the spectacular visual element would be lost.

That is only the *chudai*. There are also the *hyoshigi* clackers which first give a benign rattle, then grow to a frenzied clatter that sets every nerve on edge. There is, finally, the gigantic and dreaded *o-daiko*, which weighs 1,000lb, is hewn from a single tree, takes eight men to lift, and has a sonic



Banging the cardrum: A Kodo drummer assaults the o-daiko

boom which pins the listener to his seat and shakes his innards.

The show is not so much a music lesson (though the rhythms are as intricate as anything in Stravinsky) as a demonstration of martial arts. For all the dexterity, precision and ritualistic gravitas of the performance, there is no mistaking what its driving ingredient is: a powerful, non-destructive streak of pure violence.

The bigger the drum, the less the players wear, and the more idiosyncratic the shape of their drumsticks. So, at the show's climax, two men in scanty loincloths

attack the *o-daiko* with what appear to be skittles, accompanying themselves with many a throaty scream of "hoi-yea!"

Drums are not quite everything. There is a cool quintet — very Manhattan minimalist — featuring a glockenspiel-like instrument, and then a player who clashes little finger-cymbals while dancing, a sequence which is not unlike a Spanish flamenco performer with castanets. Bamboo flutes appear, as do banjo-like *shamisen*. All that is incidental, however, in an evening which celebrates the drum in awesome style.

On the horns of moral dilemmas

TELEVISION

Sheridan Morley

INTERVIEWED BY *The Sunday Times* over the weekend, a Granada producer talked with considerable company pride about a unique deal. For three nights this week, BBC 2 is giving much of its prime time to *Hypotheticals*, a Granada series in which politicians, journalists and civil servants are faced with moral dilemmas involving intrusions into private life (Sunday), the leaking of government secrets (last night), and, coming up on Thursday, the future of television itself.

But this is not simply another case of the BBC adopting an old ITV idea, as in the recent instance of *What the Papers Say*. The format for *Hypotheticals* originated not with Granada but with Fred Friendly at Columbia University's journalism school in America, where the series' star interrogator, Arthur Miller, has been televising them for several years.

Just how good Professor Miller

is at impaling journalists on the horns of their own dilemmas was evident on Sunday when he set up imaginary events closely paralleling Lockerbie and the death of Russell Harty, and invited the likes of Anthony Howard, Peregrine Worsthorne, Ann Leslie and Carol Thatcher to explain precisely how much their consciences would allow them to publish truths which might cause anguish to those left alive.

Last night, for the debate on government leaking, Charles Nesson of Harvard replaced Professor Miller, bringing similar American legal and investigative expertise to the pleasurable task of trapping British journalists and civil servants on the very borders of ethical behaviour.

Both Nesson and Miller are natural television stars, adept at inventing a scenario so close to recent actuality that uneasy journalists find themselves reliving their own shakier decisions rather than hypothesizing about some future moral problem. It is, in the end, academic whether BBC 2 or Granada continues to screen one of the best American

television ideas of the last decade, so long as somebody does.

The format would have suited last night's *Out On Tuesday* (Channel 4), which hit upon a still more topical moral dilemma but then failed to work it through. Since the death of the millionaire Malcolm Forbes in America a few weeks ago, a new word has been introduced to the transatlantic dictionary. "Outing" is a journalistic process whereby the private homosexuality of celebrated men is revealed by members of the gay community who believe secrecy to be detrimental to their cause.

Simon Fanshawe led a debate about the problems of, for instance, a homosexual MP defending, on behalf of his party, anti-gay, Clause 28 legislation without declaring his own sexuality; but the discussion was so ineptly cast and pursued that it achieved very little.

Over on BBC 1, a new Desmond Wilcox series called *Black in Blue* started to consider the role of Asian and black recruits to the Metropolitan Police by following half a dozen of them through early training at Hendon.

Wilcox discovered that whereas 14 per cent of Londoners are black or Asian, only two per cent of its police officers are. At least he did not tell us that the thin blue line has now become an even thinner black one.

A contrast of moods

DANCE

John Percival

Compagnie Josch The Place

HOW refreshing to find a new choreographer who, having launched his own company, has taken the trouble to compose a complete programme of short works in contrasted moods and manners.

Joachim Schlömer is German, studied at the Folkwang School in Essen (heir to the Jooss tradition) and has since danced for Pina Bausch in Wuppertal and Mark Morris in Brussels.

Knowing this, some influences in his work can be recognized, but he uses them all in his own surprising and original way.

Schlömer's style is entirely based on movement. Some predilections, especially for delicate but emphatic hand gestures, quickly reveal themselves, but each of the five works given by his Compagnie Josch develops something new.

The most ambitious work is *Shoulder to Shoulder*, based on a warlike recording of that anthem by the South Wales Striking

Miners Choir, preceded and followed by variations on it played on drums by Test Department.

The seed of the dances is the tiny gesture of tugging at one's coat lapels in time to these quick rhythms, but from that grows a complex and varied pattern which quickly establishes and develops dramatic implications, too.

The other group dance, *Weg*, uses its dancers as individuals or pairs pursuing their own paths across the stage in ingenious variants of locomotion, establishing abstract patterns to music by Messiaen.

Between these pieces come solos for Schlömer and Doris Lamatsch to music by, respectively, Arvo Pärt and Messiaen. In both, the dancers travel little but establish patterns of tension, gesture and theatrical implications. His were of a lost happiness, while hers were of an intense aspiration under the influence of the night stars.

There is also a duet danced without accompaniment by Schlömer and Georg Lenhardt. Their patterns make much use of echoes and mirror images, but often confound expectation. Even the hint developed for a time of one teaching and guiding a pupil is turned on its head later.

Once more, John Ashford's Turning World season has given us the first sight of an interesting new talent.

A less-than-full house on a bank holiday evening responded enthusiastically.

Disastrous début

OPERA

John Higgins

Il trovatore Covent Garden

WHEN the Royal Opera's *Trovatore* was new last summer, it was Manrico, in the shape of Plácido Domingo, who provided the compelling reason for catching a performance. Now, in its first revival, Manrico, in the shape of Walter Donati, is reasonable cause for giving *Trovatore* a miss. This was one of the most disappointing house debuts here in a major role for some time.

But first to the other newcomer to the production, Carol Vaness. Her very considerable reputation has been made primarily in the heavier Mozart parts. But, with this Leonora she shows that she can just as easily go into the top rank of Verdi sopranos. The opening aria showed the right combination of romantic dreaminess and vocal fireworks for the cabaret, but she reached peak form outside the tower with the imprisoned Manrico in "D'amor sull'ali rosee": creamy tone, rising with the orchestra, and a ravishing pianissimo phrase to close.

This was singing of the highest quality, mixed in with some imperious acting and many fine contributions to the ensemble. Carol Vaness has always been able to use her height to good effect on stage, but she has not always been able to control her very considerable soprano, especially in Verdi. That control now appears to have come, and she takes a great pace forward.

Even with a lesser soprano before him, Walter Donati's Manrico would have sounded indifferent. The first two acts were merely stodgy, but the wedding scene went disastrously wrong. "Ah! sì, ben mio" lacked all shape and had some ugly guttural sounds. The end of "Di quella pira" simply disappeared, which prompted a cry of "All'armi!" from someone upstairs who clearly wanted to hear the full piece. From then on Donati's confidence evaporated.

He took no curtain call at the end, and the management appeared to want to clear the stage of everyone else quickly before there were outbursts of disapproval. A pity, because both Eva Randova (Azucena) and Sergei Leiferkus (di Luna) were in more commanding form than a year ago.

Edward Downes had an excellent evening in the pit. Piero Faggioni was back to throw a little much-needed light on his gloomy staging, although at times it looked as though someone had dropped a bottle of milk on his clusters of volcanic rock.

Showcase of the avant-garde

THOMAS HUTHER

From Apocalypse to puppet theatre: Bradford Robinson reports on new works at this year's Munich Biennale



AFTER only its first week, the second Munich Biennale already shows signs of surpassing its predecessor. By the time it finishes in mid-May, no fewer than 12 new works of music-theatre will have been premiered here, some of them in productions so lavish that the city seems to be awash in subsidies. Germany, too, is apparently witnessing the beneficial effects of industrial patronage, and in BMW and Philip Morris the German avant-garde has gained some unlikely but obliging friends.

Yet it would be wrong to think of this as a German festival. Far more so than the first Biennale of 1988, the second manages to live up to its billing as the International Festival of New Music Theatre. That is evident from the backgrounds of its composers: Italian-American, Sino-Australian, Franco-Egyptian and so on. The composer Hans-Werner Henze, the festival's founder and artistic director, has assembled an impressive international array of young talent to demonstrate that avant-garde music theatre is more than a Eurocentric phenomenon.

As might be expected, his interest in the social aspect of new music is also much in evidence — a workshop for amateur composers; an opera composed by children — but it is not these intriguing side-shows that command attention so much as the five newly-commissioned operas.

Two of these are now ready. András Hármay's *Sold Still*, performed for the first time on April 26, proved to be straight

Von Schweinitz's *Palmos*: an enactment of the Book of Revelations

Literaturoper: a setting of a play by István Örkény which observes the effects of fascism on a remote Hungarian village.

Here the drama was hamstrung by a discrepancy between Örkény's coarse satire and Hamary's abstract and humourless music, as well as by the insufficiently villainous fascist officer, whose principal crime against humanity seemed to be that he forced common folk against their will to manufacture cardboard boxes. A truly satirical score might have helped the listener to appreciate that he was observing, at best, a dissection of fascism in miniature.

More substantial, in its musical achievement and certainly in its subject matter, was Wolfgang von Schweinitz's *Palmos* (premiered on April 28), which attempts nothing less than a complete operatic enactment of the Book of Revelations, and is staged by the uncompromising East German director Ruth Berghaus.

Nothing by Berghaus can fail to fascinate, whether it be Christ dressed in a fencing outfit with mask and foil or the 144,000 elect in schoolgirl uniforms. But the director is quick to point out that she has staged an opera, not the Apocalypse, and here Schweinitz's score, which is extremely long and uniform in timbre, must come in for criticism.

Drawing on clear tonal effects,

Paul de Lamerie

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MEDIA

Hello, welcome, and speak up

The BBC signs on two new governors this month. They join in interesting times. Officials of the Department of Trade and Industry are now following the Home Office in canvassing with some urgency for "new ways" to fund the BBC. "New" carries the double connotation of "without the licence fee" and "at a lower level". In government planning, the Broadcasting Bill is yesterday's business; what to do about the BBC is again rising rapidly up the agenda.

The new appointees, Mrs Shahwar Sadeque and Miss Jane Glover, display a softening of Downing Street's formerly heavy hand, and so have not been thought controversial. Mrs Sadeque, of the Commission for Racial Equality, replaces Ms Jocelyn Barrow, who soldiers on with Lord Rees-Mogg at the Standards Council. Miss Glover technically replaces the feisty Lady Parkes, although her true predecessor on the arts ticket is Lord Harewood. And Miss Glover glides past the Downing Street suitability test, whereas a while back Moira Shearer did not.

BROADCAST
Brian Wenham

The newcomers will be joining a board whose relationship with the BBC's managers is unusually stable, in sharp contrast to what went before. Alasdair Milne in his memoirs rather played down the appalling atmosphere of those times. A well-meaning, if anxious, chairman, weighed down by illness, headed a scratchy board that rarely saw eye to eye with an often brusque director-general, and his querulous cohorts. The unwelcome truth was that a sizeable faction of the board wanted rid of Milne and his chief editorial associates, but could not nerve themselves to strike. So they merely wounded, damagingly so for the BBC, whose wounds were then further exposed to the turning of the Tory knife.

So, given the public pain of so much recent history, it might seem carping to wonder whether the present closeness at the top is not now too chummy self-confidence. Questions arise in part on the editorial side: have too many rough edges been smoothed away, has the search for tidiness served as a cloak for timidity? The coming months will give the answers. Last Thursday signalled the end of mid-term Westminster point-scoring. We are now at the start of what promises to be a long and vitriolic election run-up, which will put broadcasters to a particular test. Broadcasters are expected to be both candid and even-handed; it is relatively straightforward to be the second, and to soft-pedal the first.

Getting both right together is stressful, and testing to harmony at the top.

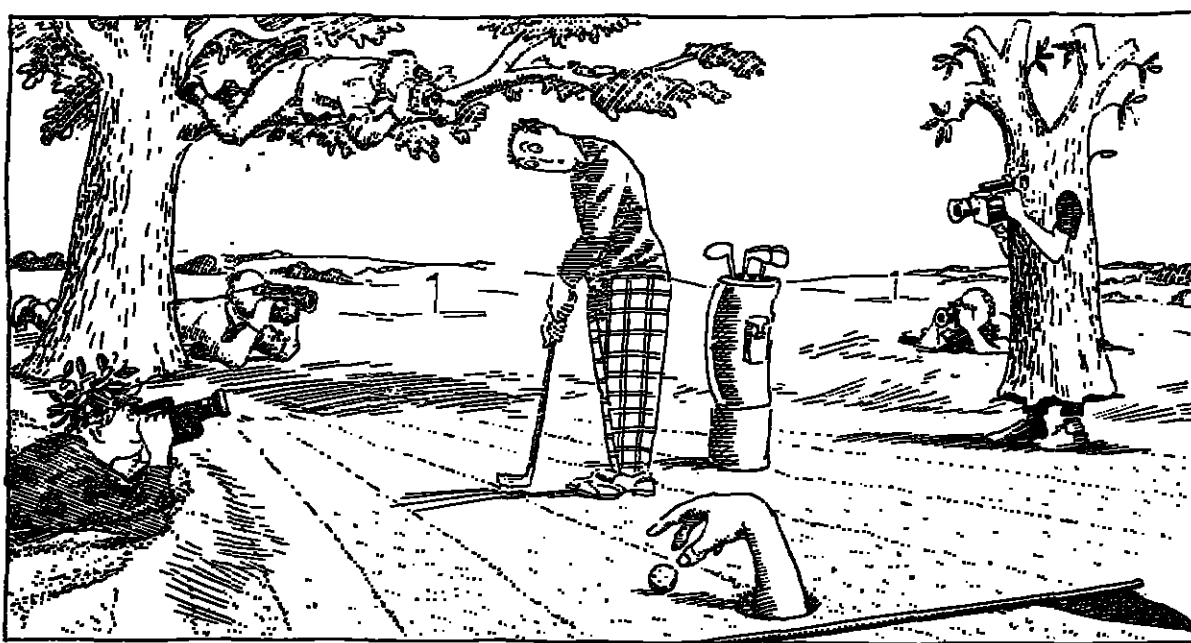
But greater strain should arise over the BBC's standstill corporate strategy. Marmaduke Hussey proclaimed recently in these pages: "We have changed the whole ethos and attitude of the BBC. It was a government-protected monopoly and part of a government-protected duopoly for the first 60 years of its existence. Then it found itself slap in the middle of a multinational competitive industry and that was a bell of a culture shock." The suggestion seemed to be that the new management, off its own bat or provoked by the businesslike spirit of the governors, had plunged into the icy waters of the market, and come up fresh and sparkling.

And yet, what of essence has changed? Mr Hussey's view of the programming requirement is: "The five radio channels will continue, and the two television channels will continue, and I have yet to see any solid alternative to the BBC local radio chain." And as to funding, the chairman, it is reported, "insists the licence fee, rather than advertising or subscription, should remain the BBC's course of funding."

So the response to the culture shock is to keep firing on all cylinders, and continue to trust to the Government for licence-fee protection.

Little sign here of the entrepreneurial overhaul that tries to identify where key businesses are, and then sets out to consolidate around them, even as other elements fall away. The old cover-the-waterfront culture would seem to be alive and well; only the way it chooses to describe itself has changed. It may be doubted whether this will be enough to head off a government that wants the licence fee system supplanted, and looks for evidence of BBC containment. It would also be rash to assume that an incoming government of different hue would take a greatly different stance.

Some see a devilish cunning in the BBC posture. It is argued that, come 1996, when the BBC charter is up for renewal, any government will want to see a sacrifice or two: talk of paring programme services now serves as a sensible purpose, and merely whets the appetite. Deferring the matter, however, encourages others to make the running, others to opine on BBC priorities and to seek to delimit the operation in their own image. Better surely that management and what is now a full board of governors speak up on their vision of the corporation's future.



Show your worst

Richard Evans
reports on a TV
boom in home
videos which make
viewers cringe

A successor has been born to *Candid Camera*, the television "spy in the wall" which amused millions of viewers by capturing everyday gaffes and misfortunes.

This time it will be amateurs and not professionals who are out with the cameras — and they are queuing up to supply material from home videos. The idea originated in Japan, but it is spreading like wildfire. In the United States, the programme *America's Funniest Home Videos* has taken the country by storm, and is apparently reversing the fortunes of ABC. Now two British channels plan their own shows for this summer.

Granada networked the first British version on ITV on Easter Saturday. Titled *You've Been Framed*, and fronted by Jeremy Beadle, it attracted an audience of 12 million. Appreciation figures were some of the best recorded.

Although the programme gave the impression that it was a British product — with some of the video makers in the audience — more than half the clips came from abroad.

The format was brought to Britain under licence by a Manchester-based independent production company named Action Time. Negotiations with ABC and Viñ di Bona, the American independent which sold it to them, as well as Tokyo Broadcasting, included a deal to pool clips internationally. This is important to Britain, because video camera ownership is lower here than in Japan or the United States.

Stephen Leahy, Action Time's chief executive, denies that using foreign clips is cheating: "We didn't call it

Britain's Funniest Home Videos. And the idea was partly to initiate a flow of clips."

You've Been Framed, initially screened as a one-off, will definitely return to British screens, "either as specials, or a full series," Mr Leahy says. At present, a second programme is in preparation for late August.

On May 27, Sky launches *The Secret Video Show*, a series of 15 to 30-minute programmes presented by Chris Tarrant. Each show will contain around 10 minutes of home-video disasters, among other *Candid Camera*-type, professionally shot comic episodes around Britain.

Granada pays a "small contractual fee" for clips, but Sky is offering big prize money — £2,500 for the best of the series, £500 for the best of the week.

Will there be a temptation to manufacture incidents? Both Sky and Granada say they are alert to the possibility, although they believe it is more difficult to do than it sounds.

"There is something about the reaction of the camera that gives it away," says Dianne Nelmes, executive

producer of *You've Been Framed*. "We will keep our eye on it," says Sky's Fiona Waters.

If the clip is funny, perhaps it doesn't matter. In the United States, programme-makers accept that faking does go on: indeed, *America's Funniest Home Videos* has made a virtue of it — some of the best loved parts of the show are the bad fakes.

From September, 80 per cent of American stations will be screening *Video Challenge*, an amateur film-makers' competition, with £6,000 awarded each week to entries judged by a panel of showbusiness personalities. There are four categories — children, comedy, music and "that's life".

Paradigm Entertainment, which dreamed up *Video Challenge*, is offering it to British and European stations. "This is the *Candid Camera* of the Nineties," says Gary Pudney, the company's chief executive. "We would love to have a British version so that we could have a competition with the best of the American shows."

"In effect, it is a new genre and the biggest thing since soap operas arrived. It is successful because people identify with the show, because it is about real people and real incidents. It is also a chance to be part of showbusiness."

With the cheaper video cameras now costing less than £700, the numbers in Britain are expected to rise rapidly over the next few years. It seems likely that with so many candid cameras on the streets, it will soon be dangerous to go out unless you are prepared to have your every ship-up flashed around the television networks of the world.

Flying a new flag for books

Market analysis is playing a bigger part in choosing best-sellers

The Book Marketing Council, which was set up 10 years ago by the Publishers' Association in order to expand the UK market, is to break free of the strings tying it to the trade association and become Book Marketing Ltd, a public company.

Claire Middleton and Sally Ann Palmer, its two directors, will expand their staff to four, including themselves, hastily move their office, and prepare to live on their wits as a consultancy, PR agency, and publisher of specialist catalogues. The new company already has 20 clients, including Collins, Pentos, and the Claude Giff/Hatchards retail group.

Pride of place in the new office will be held by the sacred text of the company's belief, *Books and the Consumer*, a survey carried out for the BMC by the British Market Research Bureau. The full text of this survey — the result of 6,000 one-hour interviews — was sponsored by 15 companies, and its inner findings are secret.

But in summary, Ms Middleton says, it shows "that people are reading and buying more than we previously thought" and that, specifically, "we are under-targeting certain groups, such as the under-25s and over-60s."

Ms Middleton is a passionate believer in market research: in the past four years she has pushed the BMC in the direction of professional number-crunching and market analysis. "What has been lacking in the book world is sustained, long-term, market research," she says. "Only a few specialist companies, such as Mills & Boon, do it."

One of her projects was a Mothers' Day promotion, with national advertising to the effect that Mother would prefer a book to a bunch of daffodils. But the visible campaign was the least of it. "We did omnibus surveys before and after Mothers' Day to see if it worked. Cautiously, I can say it did. What we were working on was the guilt factor: women feel guilty at neglecting their family for the private pleasure of a book."

As the PR consultancy work develops, the company will take on individual clients with projects: a bookseller might be advised on layout and signposting, for example, and a publisher might ask for advice on how to target a new book.

Libby Purves

BBC
Policy & Planning Unit
Management Section

The Policy and Planning Unit advises top management on the whole range of broadcasting issues, from the Broadcasting Bill to the televising of Parliament. Staff in the Unit's Management Section are involved with both the BBC's internal workings and its public face. They service the BBC's weekly management and programme meetings, provide support for the central advisory bodies, and draft letters for the Chairman and Director-General explaining BBC policy to MPs, public bodies and the like. They can also be asked to prepare background research and briefings, and to draft speeches. Much of the work is confidential, and has to be produced accurately to tight deadlines.

Staff need an ability to write well and to think clearly, with a sharp sense of the wider interests of the BBC. They must be able to establish good working relations with a wide range of colleagues in busy production departments and liaise between managers at the highest level.

There are vacancies for a Chief Assistant, Editorial Policy and for a Senior Assistant (on one-year contracts).

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Based Central London, but moving to White City in late 1990.

For further information, contact Robin McCron on 071-580 4468 ext. 4431. For application form contact (quote appropriate ref. and enclose s.a.c.) BBC Corporate Recruitment Services, London W1A 1AA. Tel: 071-927 5799.

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Tournament of the Mind



Image makers: John Scanlon in his office with a replica of Churchill's desk and his opponent in the Trump case, Howard Rubenstein, with his collection of hard hats

Stick or twist with two Trump cards

As well as locking horns in Trump versus Trump, the two men are on opposing sides of the case in which Cory Aquino's government is taking Imelda Marcos as Adnan Khashoggi to court. Mr. Scanlon, acting on behalf of Mrs. Aquino, and Mr. Rubenstein for Mr. Khashoggi.

It is a confrontation in which the manipulation of opinion and the "spinning" of a story have been as important as in the Trump case. Mr. Rubenstein is credited with coming up with the suggestion that Mr. Khashoggi ride to court on the subway instead of in a limousine.

Of the "carnal contract" that Mrs. Trump reputedly asked Mr. Trump to sign so that they could both be seen in public with other partners without jeopardizing their marriage (or divorce), Dan Klores, who handled the matter in Mr. Rubenstein's absence, comments: "The contract was apparently initiated by Mrs. Trump and/or her attorneys, and we went along with it. Mr. Trump signed it and two days later Mrs. Trump decided to cancel it. So Donald's attorneys pointed out to the Press that this was the second

"But I'm glad it had one benefit. The crowd at the casino was so huge they had to shut down the slot machines for a while and thousands of people lined up; I'm told nobody there had ever seen anything like it.


Mr Rubenstein pinpoints the start of his image-making boom in New York to the fiscal collapse of the city in the late 1970s — a period he considers the most exciting in his life. He takes a fierce pride in his involvement with the city and many of its trade unions. He was responsible, for example, for re-naming New York's dustmen "sanitation

Neither Mr. Rubenstein nor Mr. Scanlon can help remarking — frequently and with awe — that they haven't done badly for, as Mr. Scanlon puts it, "an Irish kid from the Bronx", or, in the case of Mr. Rubenstein, "a kid from Brooklyn".

Mr. Scanlon will probably one day write his biography. Rubenstein has prudently decided, he says, "to have amnesia".

ROUND 4: diagram: Six. The words are: emits, items, metis, mites, smite and times. Reading downwards, the rows are given the values of 11, 9, 15, 7, 1 and, reading across, the columns are given the values of 6, 11, 4, 7, 8. These

ROUND 5: diagram: Nine years, six and three-quarter months. The first planet will be 22.5 degrees in its orbit, the second 202.5 and the third 22.5; verbal: MUNESTUB (NEMBUSU) which is associated with Zen Buddhism. Ormazd, Gayomart and Saoshyans are all associated with Zoroastrianism; HN. They are the first and last letters of the Roman emperors – Vespasian, Titus, Domitian, Nerva, Trajan and Hadrian; maths: 12. The logic is in diagonal equations. The first two of any diagonal are added and the third is then subtracted and, where there is a fourth, it is added. Thus, 11 on the top row is added to 9 on the top row to equal 16, 9 on the top row cannot be added or subtracted, so it remains at 9, 13 is added to 6 and then 7 is subtracted to give 12, 4 is added to 2, then 2 is subtracted and 8 is added to give 12; miscellany: Strbské Pleso



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PREVIEW

TODAY Rock, Jazz & World Music • THURSDAY Opera, Dance & Books • FRIDAY Classical Music • MONDAY Art & Auctions • TUESDAY Theatre & Cabaret

The Times Preview features a different area of the arts each day Monday to Friday, as indicated above, including events in the following seven days. Plus the Cinema Guide.

ROCK

Mike Nicholls

DR FEELGOOD: Seminal UK R'n'B combo and major influence on birth of punk, still led by Lee Brilleaux. Today: Coventry The Zoo, Pymose Hill Street (0203 63492), 8pm. 55. Thurs: Swansea Pav Pavilion, Victoria Park (0792 46513), 8pm. 25. Fri: Bournemouth International Centre, Exeter Road (0202 22122), 8pm. 25. Sat: Salisbury City Hall, Marlborough Lane (0722 34444), 8pm. 25. Sun: Warrington Park Hall, Palmira Square (0525 34968), 8pm. 25. Mon: Edinburgh Preservation Hall, Victoria Street (0224 28161), 8pm. 4. Tues: Morecambe Winter Gardens, Marine Road (0524 425005), 8pm. 25.

THE SMITHERS: Hard-edged American rock band purveying a vaguely futuristic sound of heavy pop. Today: Town & Country Club, 8-17 Highgate Road, London NW5 (071 284 0303), 7pm. 25.50.

SPIZZOL: Return of late Seventies duo, whose "Where's Captain Kirk?" remains one of the all-time biggest-selling independent singles. Thurs: Marquee, 105 Charing Cross Road, London WC2 (071 437 6601), 8pm. 25.

GONG: Time-honoured French free-form jazz-rock combo who were one of the first bands signed to the Virgin label some two decades ago. Thurs: Liverpool Polytechnic, Maryland Street (051 709 4047), 8pm. 25. Fri: Manchester International 2, 210 Plymouth Grove (061 273 8634), 8pm. 25. Sat: Trent Polytechnic, Byron Building, Shalesmead Street (0502 476725), 8pm. 25. Sun: Bristol Blackletter, All Saints Street (0272 268514), 8pm. 25.

BILLY BRAGG: The capitalist with a conscience, not to mention his own record company, tours the UK following his recent pact to Nicaragua. Thurs: Sheffield University, Western Bank (0742 24076), 8pm. 25. Fri: Cardiff University, Park Place (0222 36421), 8pm. 25. Mon and Tues: Town & Country Club, 8-17 Highgate Road, London NW5 (071 284 0303), 7.30pm. 25.

JESUS JONES: Post-modern mix of digital technology and high-energy rock 'n' roll. Thurs: Bristol Blackletter, All Saints Street (0272 268514), 8pm. 25. Fri: Leeds Polytechnic, Calverley Street (0532 430171), 8pm. 25. Sat: Manchester International 2, 210 Plymouth Grove (061 273 8634), 8pm. 25. Thurs: Birmingham Irish Centre, Digbeth High Street (021 622 2314), 8pm. 25.

RED LORRY, YELLOW LORRY/THE UNLOVED: Evergreen Yorkshire indie band, backed by newly-commissioned London pop-art rockers. Thurs: The Venue, 24 Clifton Rise, New Cross, London SE14 (081 862 4077), 8.30pm. 24.

THE RAILWAY CHILDREN: Tireless indie-poppers from Wigan. Thurs: Psychic Dancehall, The Old Town River Street, Windsor (0753 268977), 8pm. 25. Fri: Dudley, JB's, King Street (0824 53597), 8pm. 25. Sat: Coventry, Warwick University, Kenilworth Road (0203 417220), 8pm. 25.

MIDNIGHT OIL: Powerful Australian rock band, ecologically outspoken, who enjoyed a hit with "Beds are Burning". Fri: National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham (021 780 4133/3127), 7.30pm. 25.50.

UNDERNEATH WHAT: Charismatic hardcore metal act, recently returned from Far Eastern tour. Fri: London Astoria, 157 Charing Cross Road, London WC2 (071 434 5582), 7.30pm. 25.

THIN WHITE ROPE: Cui American modern rock band tipped for imminent stardom.

Silver plectrum



Celebrating 25 years in rock, Jeff Beck (above, centre) is one of that trinity of rock guitarists which also comprises Eric Clapton and Jimmy Page. Although not as widely popular as the others, Beck was at art school with Page and replaced Clapton in The Yardbirds, the pop/R'n'B crossover band which scored with top Sixties hits such as "Heart of Soul" and "For Your Love". He made two classic albums with a then unknown Rod Stewart, before concentrating on instrumental material in his own right and with supergroups such as Beck, Bogert and Appice. In more recent years his services have been enlisted by a number of household pop names, from Mick Jagger and Tina Turner to Malcolm McLaren and the Comic Strip, with whom he worked as a consultant for their rock 'n' roll pop programme, *The Bad News Tour*. Last year he recorded the Grammy-winning *Jeff Beck's Guitar Shop* album, with two less famous names. Terry Bozzio (drums, above right) and Tony Hymas (keyboards, above left) are virtuosos in their fields and are with Beck at this week's dates: Today: Edinburgh Playhouse, 18-22, Greenside Place (031-557 2590), 7.30pm. 25.50. Tomorrow: National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham (021-780 4133/3227), 7.30pm. 25.50. Fri: Manchester Apollo, Ardwick Green (061-273 3775), 7.30pm. 25.50. Sun and Mon: Hammersmith Odeon, Queen Caroline Street, London, W6 (081-748 4081), 7.30pm. 25.50-25.12.50.

Mike Nicholls

FRI. SUBTERRANEA: 12 Aikman Road, Ladbrook Grove, London W10 (081-960 4590), 9.30pm. 25.

BENNY PROFANE: Refreshing and irreverent indie pop. Sat: Old Bull Arts Centre, High Street, Barnet, Herts (081 449 0048), 7.30pm. 25.50-22.25.

WILKO JOHNSON: Deadly R'n'B guitarist still devastating stages, 13 years after quitting Dr Feelgood (see above). Sat: Powerhouse, 1 Liverpool Road, Islington, London N1 (071-837 3218), 8pm. 25.

JAMES: Former Smiths soundalikes cashing in on their currently fashionable Manchester ("Stone Roses"), "Happy Mondays" and so on roots. Sun: Cambridge Corn Exchange, Wheeler Street (0223 357851), 8pm. 25.50. Mon: Brighton Top Rank, West Street (0273 732627), 8pm. 25.50.

NAZARETH, FISH, JIM DIAMOND, HIS LATEST FLAME, BLUES & TROUBLE AND THE RIGHT STUFF: Intriguing collection of old and new Souths groups playing Lithuanian benefit. Sun: Dunfermline Athletic FC, East End Park (031 556 9255), 8pm. 25.50.

ALBERT KING: World class blues guitarist who has just contributed to new Gary Moore LP. Fri: London Astoria, 157 Charing Cross Road, London WC2 (071 434 5582), 7.30pm. 25.

THIN WHITE ROPE: Cui American modern rock band tipped for imminent stardom.

SHIELA JORDAN: Sometimes mannered, sometimes inspired, the American singer learned her trade by singing in a band with the beboppers of the early Fifties. Tomorrow: Bass Clef, 35 Coronet St, London N1 (071-729 2476), 8pm. 25 (also Tues 15-Thurs 17); Fri: Brighton Jazz Festival, Concorde Restaurant, Madeira Drive (0273 60640), 8pm. 25.

LOOSE TUBES: Though the underground music scene has fallen after a while, the young big band continues to win non-jazz converts. Tomorrow: Southall Arts Festival, Library Theatre, Homer Rd (info 021 704 9922), 8pm. 25.

EVAN PARKER: More extended bouts of circular breathing and muphonics from the avant-garde soprano saxophonist. Tomorrow: Brighton Jazz Festival (with Barry Guy) Concorde Restaurant, Madeira Drive (0273 60640), 8pm. 25. Fri: Jazzheads (with Jon Corbett), Duke of Wellington, 119 Strand Rd, London N1 (info 071-833 1288), 8pm. 25. Mon: Sessions, Bull's Head, Rectory Grove, London SW4 (071-822 4656), 8.30pm. 23.

LIONEL HAMPTON: Sole UK date by the still-swinging vibraphonist whose autobiography is due to be published next month. Fri: Battersea Centre, Silk St, London SE1 (071-638 8881), 7.45pm. 25.50-22.50.

A NIGHT AT THE COTTON CLUB: Benny Green introduces a line-up including veteran saxophonist Benny Waters and One Mr Time singer Junita Brooks. Sat: Colston Hall, Colston St, Bristol (0272 223686), 7.30pm. 24-28.

BERYL BRYDEN: Britain's answer to Bessie Smith is on tour to celebrate her 70th birthday. Sat: Pizza Express, 10 Dean St, London W1 (071-438 8722), 9.30pm. 25. Sun: Pizza On The Park, 10 Knightsbridge, London SW1 (071-235 5550), 9.15pm & 11.15pm. 25. Tues: 100 Club, 100 Oxford St, London W1 (071 638 0833), 7.30pm-midnight. 25.

THE CELTIC MUSE: Two-day festival of Celtic music, poetry and story-telling with the Davy Spillane Band, Dan Briar, Bart Jansch's Celtic Collection and others. Friday and Saturday: Rufford Country Park, near Clontarf, Nottingham (0602 824435), Friday 25, Saturday 26, weekend tickets £10.

MID-WALES FOLK FESTIVAL: A strong line-up led by Billy Bragg and Martin Carthy with Vasmataz, June Tabor, Frankie Armstrong and many others. Friday to Sunday: various venues in Newtown, Powys (0686 625007), weekend tickets £15.

TOUMANI DIABATE: Britain has been fortunate in being able to hear live performances by many superb kora players from the Gambia, Mali and Guinea. Mali's young Toumani Diabate has a sparkling, individual style which is extremely accessible and an engrossing pleasure. Saturday: West Indian Centre, Leicestershire Road, Leicester (0533 62496), 8.30pm. 24. Sunday: The Green Room, Whitworth Street West, Manchester (061-236 1677), 8pm. 24.30.

LAS CHICAS DEL CAN: Fourteen-piece all-woman band from the Dominican Republic who play fast and furious Merengue and Tropical dance music. Sunday: Empire Ballroom, Leicester Square, London W1 (081-437 1446), 7.30pm. 27.50.

SILEAS: Harp trio from Scotland who combine a number of different traditional styles with modern playing. Sunday: Burnley Mechanics, Burnley (0282 30055), 8pm. 25.50.

ARABESQUE: Percussive, danceable group led by Hassan Elraj, combining the Arab East's classical traditions of Morocco and Turkey with jazz influences. Tomorrow: Arts Centre, Bedwin Street, Salisbury (0722 21744), 8pm. 24. Friday: Phoenix Arts Centre, Newark Street, Leicester (0533 55-854), 8pm. 24. Tuesday: Bluecoat Arts Centre, School Lane, Liverpool (051-709 5297), 8pm. 25.50.

VASMALON: Hungarian five piece multi-instrumental band based in Budapest. Their music has grown out of the mid-70s revival of interest in the folk traditions of the Balkans. Friday: Theatre Hatren, Landloss Road, Newbury (0345 625007), 8pm. 24. Saturday: Theatre Midway, Cardigan, Dyfed (0238 612687), 8pm. 24.

BATTLEFIELD BAND: The Battlefield Band has a three-day Celtic with the now customarily eclectic selection of guests from the roots music circuit. There will also be a songwriting competition with prizes worth £1,000. Begins Friday: Dunbar Primary School, 100 Leitham Road (01506 320 328). Concerts, classes and competitions run throughout the day and evening. Weekend £16.

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CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's selection of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol *) on release across the country.

NEW RELEASES

INTERNAL AFFAIRS (18): Richard Gere and Andy Garcia as Los Angeles cops sucked into a vortex of insanity and corruption. Tired thriller, given some kick by Brian Koppelman. Canons: Baker Street (071-636 9772) Fulham Road (071-370 2638) Shaftesbury Avenue (071-636 8861) Plaza (071-437 0767) Whiteleys (071-732 3303/3324).

NUNS ON THE RUN (12): Eric Idle and Robbie Coltrane sheltering as nuns in Janet Suzman's convent school. Funny and luscious drag comedy, armed at the hip of the shrewdly zany, from writer-director Jonathan Lynn. Canons: Leicester Square (071-630 6111) Whiteleys (071-732 3303/3324).

SEE YOU IN THE MORNING (12): Disappointingly heavy-handed romantic comedy from writer-director Alan J. Pakula, with Jeff Bridges as a psychiatrist torn between two women, Alice Krige, Farrah Fawcett. Canons: Fulham Road (071-370 2638) Tottenham Court Road (071-636 6148) Warner West End (071-439 0791).

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COMPILED BY PETER DEAR
AND GILLIAN MAXEY
● CRITIC'S CHOICE PETER WAYMARK

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proceeds slowly, if inexorably, towards its maximum concentration and would

as gum footwear, people have been better suited to the half-hour format of *Tales of the Unexpected* than to playing to spread over an hour. But skilled playing by Holm and Atkins helps to give substance to their thinly sketched characters.

10.00 News, Time and weather 10.30 Thames News and weather

0.35 Midweek Sport Special presented by Nick Owen. Features Bowling: Britain's Lennox Lewis meets Lionel Washington of the United States in a heavyweight contest at London's Royal Albert Hall. At the ringside are Greg Guttridge and Jim Watt; and Football: Highlights of the European Cup Winners Cup final between Sampdoria and Anderlecht in Gothenburg. Alan Parry is the commentator.

1.45 Mayfest 90. A preview of Glasgow's international arts event.

2.15 Live Film: *Love She Makes* (1974) starring Julia Night and Doug Bowles. Skilfully mounted horror story from Australia about a young girl who agrees to a date with a work colleague and wishes she hadn't. Atmospherically directed by Catherine Miller.

1.40 Stories in the Night. Nick Stuart investigates the claims of medium Marjorie Kite who says she obtains information about people by reading the energies surrounding their personal possessions. Followed by News headlines.

2.10 Videofashion. A look at young fashion talents from Milan, Paris and London.

2.40 America's Top Ten

3.10 Night Gallery. More strange tales to resist a shiver down the spine of the late-

Headlines

1.10 The Channon and Bail Video Show.
A trip down football's memory lane with Mike Channon and Alan Bail

1.40 Fifty Years On (b/w). Newsreels from 50 years ago including a Nazi bomber crashing at Clacton and an investiture at Buckingham Palace

5.00 ITN Morning News. Ends at 6.00

with celebratory verse and Cunliffe places the collection in the context of the 19th century debate about African and European contributions to the theme, the biologist Richard Dawkins speculates on why cultural evolution (as illustrated in the Pitt Rivers) has proceeded faster than biological evolution. But the old pro Attenborough makes the most memorable contribution with his simple enthusiasm for an exquisitely carved headdress from Tahiti and an Aboriginal baby carrier

2.00 The New Statesman: A Wapping Conspiracy. Unusual but effective comedy series starting this night (r)

3.35 Film: Goalkeepers: The Fear Of The Penalty (1971). Arthur Brauss as a goalkeeper with a German football team who finds that life when you're not in your prime is not for him and storms off the pitch during a match. Various situations lead him to become a murderer. Excellent lingering camera work and direction makes this a haunting and atmospheric film. With English subtitles. Directed by Wim Wenders

2.25am Neil Diamond. Neil Diamond selects favourites from his own songs

3.35 Invisible Touch Tour - Genesis. The rock group in a July 1987 concert at Wembley (r) Ends at 2.40

ITV VARIATIONS

ANGLIA
 us London except: 1.20pm-1.30 Anglia
 News 2.00-2.30 The Young Doctors 3.30
 00 Coronation Street 6.25-7.00 Above
 anglia 11.45 Tour of Duty 12.45am Case
 1.45am's Rock and Roll Goldmine 1.30 Qu
 2.00 2.00 Stones in the Night 2.30 Bedrock
 3.35 Time Tunnel 4.35-5.0
 aming Diary

BORDER
 us London except: 1.20pm-1.30 Bord

Wednesday 6.30-7.00 Blockbusters 11.4

CENTRAL
 s London except: 1.20pm-1.30 Central
 News 3.30-4.00 Coronation Street 6.25
 00 Central News 11.45 Alfred Hitchcock
 presents: The Man From The South
 2.15am Stones in the Night 12.45 Tour of
 duty 2.45 Film Watch Your Stern 4.25-5.00
 Central Joinfinder 90

ews 2.00-2.30 The Young Doctors 3.30
0.00 Coronation Street 5.10-5.40 Home and
away 6.00 Channel Reports 6.30-7.00

[illegible]

cl News and Weather 8.00 Main Event

NOW

1st Edition 9.00 Your World: Peacocks, Parrots and the Puzzle of Sex, News and
 10.00 European Business Today

THE POWER STATION

YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT.

WEDNESDAY MAY 9 1990

- BUSINESS AND FINANCE 25-31
- ANTIQUES & COLLECTABLES 40
- LAW 41
- SPORT 41-46

Executive Editor
David Brewerton

THE POUND

US dollar
1.6710 (+0.0100)

W German mark
2.7680 (-0.0094)

Exchange index
87.6 (same)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1710.1 (+13.3)

FT-SE 100
2182.0 (+19.8)

USM (Datastream)
130.19 (+0.03)

Market report, page 28

Builder falls
to £4.5m loss

STANLEY Miller, the builder, is in talks with a potential bidder after 1989 losses of £4.5 million. Its shares were suspended at 20p last week.

Nu-Swift ahead
NU-SWIFT made profits of £31.8 million (£30.7 million) in the year to December. The total dividend is unchanged at 15p.

UK Land slides
PRE-TAX profits at UK Land fell 61 per cent to £1.72 million in the six months to March. As normal, there is no interim dividend. An interim balance sheet shows net assets per share of 750p, up 26p from the year-end.

Parkland slips
PARKLAND Textile made profits of £2.04 million before tax in the year to March 2, a fall of 21 per cent. Turnover rose 2 per cent to £55.8 million and earnings per share were just 1 per cent lower at 23.9p. The final dividend rises 0.2p to 4.5p, leaving the total 6 per cent up at 6.7p.

STOCK MARKETS

New York
Dow Jones 2722.97 (+1.35)
Tokyo
Nikkei Average 30970.58 (+14.31)
Hong Kong
Hang Seng 2953.58 (-5.33)
Amsterdam
CSE Tendency 117.7 (+0.3)
Sydney
Sydney 100 1476.9 (-1.1)
Frankfurt
DAX 1899.28 (-35.67)
Brussels
General 6084.38 (+13.58)
Paris
CAC 1476.9 (-1.1)
Zurich
SIX Gen 3583.3 (-1.7)
London
FT-A All-Share 1076.86 (+8.91)
FT-100 1710.1 (+13.3)
FT-250 227.0 (+1.1)
FT-1000 85.18 (-0.17)
FT-10000 76.24 (+0.26)

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISES:
Lucas 520p (+10p)
Glaxo 785p (+10p)
Nestle Corp 482p (+10p)
Reed International 392p (+11p)
Thomson Corp 695p (+10p)
Bass 957p (+10p)
Independent 372p (+10p)
Fisons 331p (+8p)
GKN 301p (+20p)
Barr & W A A 345p (+10p)
Roithmans 'B' 680p (+10p)
Davies & Newman 400p (+35p)
DAKS Simpson A 432p (+10p)
Whitman 370p (+10p)
GUS A 988p (+37p)
RMC 615p (+10p)

FALLS

Eastern Produce 312p (-15p)
Eurotunnel Units 557p (-12p)
Closing prices
Barratons 2178p
SEAQ Volume 309.0m

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base: 15%
3-month interbank 15.15-15.16%
3-month eligible bills: 14.15-14.16%
US: Prime Rate 10%
Federal Funds 8.75%
3-month Treasury Bills 7.78-7.79%
30-year bonds 96.75-96.76%

CURRENCIES

London: New York
£: \$1.6710
£: DM1.6575
£: Sfr2.3912
£: FF9.3033
£: Yen263.85
£: Index: 87.6
ECU: 1.361819
SDR: 1.361819
SDR: 1.361819

GOLD

London Fixing:
AM \$372.10 pm \$370.65
close \$369.25-369.75 (£220.75-221.25)
New York:
Comex \$369.20-369.70

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Jun) \$16.85/bbl (\$16.50)
Daresbury latest trading price

TOURIST RATES

	Bank	Bank
Australia \$	2.33	2.37
Austria Sch	23.25	23.25
Belgium F	20.35	20.35
Canada \$	2.01	1.91
Denmark Kr	16.50	16.50
Finland Mk	6.97	6.47
France F	6.71	6.71
Germany DM	2.95	2.95
Hong Kong \$	79.20	79.20
Italy Lira	13.50	13.50
Japan Yen	160.25	160.25
Netherlands Gld	3.60	3.60
Portugal Esc	200.48	200.48
Spain Ptas	166.36	166.36
Sweden Kr	10.36	10.36
Switzerland F	4.40	4.40
Taiwan NTD	1.75	1.75
USA \$	2.33	2.37
Yugoslavia Dnr	24.50	17.50

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques.
Retail Price Index: 212.4 (March)

Revolt at B&C
by loan
stockholders

By Angela Mackay

BRITISH & Commonwealth, the embattled financial services group, will be pushed close to receivership this week after a meeting of the company's loan stockholders decided to press for repayment of the bonds.

Convened at the Whitbread Brewery in the City, the meeting was attended by holders of B&C's 7% per cent convertible unsecured loan stock. Holders of about 30 per cent of the stock on issue were represented. The majority opted to write to the Law Debenture Trust Corporation, B&C's trustees, seeking repayment.

A quorum of 20 per cent of the £320 million of bonds on issue was met at the meeting. Those attending included Mr Paul Hilton of SG Investment, the convenor and chairman of the meeting, Hill Samuel, Legal and General and Singer & Friedlander. B&C, incidentally, owns about 10 per cent of Singer & Friedlander, the merchant bank.

Bondholders strived to keep the venue a secret, moving from the offices of James Capel to the converted Whitbread Brewery. Only bondholders and representatives of James Capel and Laing & Cruckshank, the stockbrokers, were admitted to the meeting.

Mr Hilton is expected to

issue a statement today saying "a number of significant stockholders will be writing to the trustees seeking repayment." B&C does not have the cash to immediately repay loan stockholders and it is unlikely that the company could avoid going into receivership.

Sources at the meeting said close to 20 per cent of the bond holders who attended the meeting had the power of attorney to call for redemption and that more than 20 per cent would have exercised that power by the end of the week.

B&C had sought to forestall such a decision by issuing a statement on Friday saying the company was well advanced in the formulation of proposals which were "in the best interests of all parties." The company recommended "no precipitate action be taken."

Last night B&C said the proposals will be made public in about 10 days. B&C said the company is a goodwill business and that moves to push for repayment of the loan stock may diminish the value of assets. "What we are trying to avoid is a fire sale," it added.

Three weeks ago, B&C's shares were suspended on the Stock Exchange after the company announced it was writing off £550 million on Atlantic Computers, its computer leasing subsidiary.

Atlantic was placed under the aegis of Price Waterhouse, the administrators. B&C has also retained the special fraud unit at Stephenson Harwood, the solicitor, to examine potential wrongdoing at Atlantic.

The company has promised its bankers it will raise £750 million from asset sales by the middle of 1991, however, after the bondholders' decision to press for repayment yesterday, an orderly asset sale may no longer be an option.

Last week, B&C officially put its banking division on the market and BCL, the group's insurance arm, is also being sold to interests associated with the management.

In a separate development, Law Debenture yesterday said it had appointed Royal Exchange Trust Co to be its attorney and exercise independent duties as trustee for the 7% per cent loan stock.

Law Debenture is trustee for three classes of B&C's loan stock and raised the alarm when it said that loan stockholders' interests were being "materially prejudiced" by events.

In a statement, Law Debenture said, "continuing developments may require different considerations to be taken into account when assessing what is in the best interests."

Comment, page 27

Credit and
spending
down as
rates bite

By Colin Narbrough

RETAIL sales and new-credit data brought the Government encouraging signs that high interest rates are seriously curbing consumer demand.

Final figures for March showed a seasonally adjusted 1.8 per cent fall in retail sales from the record level in February to 122.6 on the volume index, mainly reflecting falling sales of household goods. The decline was provisionally put at 1.4 per cent.

In the first quarter, volume sales were 0.7 per cent higher than the previous three months and 1.5 per cent up on the same period last year.

New credit advanced to consumers by UK finance houses, building societies and on bank credit cards was a seasonally adjusted £3.72 billion in March.

This was unchanged from the figure for February and compared with £3.38 billion in March last year.

Dr Gerard Lyons, chief economist at DKB International, said the figures pointed to a slowdown in credit growth and retail sales. But they started from high levels and it was too early to say whether a trend had been established.

The better-than-expected figures were largely ignored by the markets, which were focused on April inflation figures due on Friday.

IMF accord on
50% quota rise

From Rodney Lord, Washington

THE 152 member countries of the International Monetary Fund have reached agreement on an increase of 50 per cent in the size of the Fund's resources, more than two years after the original deadline.

The agreement is part of an intricate package of measures, involving compromises by both rich and poor countries.

Mr John Major, the Chancellor, made a strong plea in the Development Committee of the World Bank for the efficient use of resources by developing countries. There were still too many examples, he said, of "questionable military purchases" and "white elephant public sector projects involving large foreign exchange costs that can ill be afforded."

Development programmes would be much helped if governments became "more accountable" to their peoples, he said.

The agreement on quotas (subscriptions) in the IMF links several different issues on which compromises have been reached. Britain, which originally proposed a 25 per cent quota increase, and the US have had to accept a larger increase in quotas than they would have preferred. But the final figure is only half the doubling of quotas wanted by M Michel Camdessus, the managing director of the Fund. France and many developing countries.

The price landed by the US,

in which it was supported by all the other Group of Seven leading industrial countries, is the direct linking of the quota increase to a firmer treatment of arrears in the Fund. The main feature of this is the creation of a state of "suspension" into which members in arrears may be placed. Previously, the only discipline was the "nuclear" option of expulsion from the Fund.

To obtain the direct linkage, the US has had to concede on a number of other fronts. The next quota increase will fall due by March 31, 1993, five years after the original deadline rather than from the actual completion of the quota review as the US and Britain would have preferred.

The rich countries have also agreed to bear more of the cost to the Fund of countries in arrears. Until 1986, the cost of arrears was shared out among other Fund debtors. Since then, it has been shared equally by all Fund members, according to their quota share.

As part of the new agreement, "asymmetrical burden sharing" will be introduced under which creditors - the rich countries - will pay three times as much as debtor countries.

Access limits to Fund money will remain unchanged until the increase in quotas becomes effective, at which point they will be reduced.

Comment, page 27

Convertibles exposure causes blackspot in HK Bank's empire

James Capel goes into the red again

From Lulu Yu, Hong Kong

JAMES Capel, the British broker owned by the Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation, has fallen back into the red after being caught over-exposed to the convertible bond market.

The troubled firm incurred an after-tax loss of £7 million in the first quarter of this year compared with pre-tax profits of £4.6 million for the whole of 1989. Capel would not say what the figures were for the first quarter of 1989, other than that they were in profit.

Speaking at the bank's annual meeting in Hong Kong, Mr William Purves, the chairman, blamed the downturn on losses from market-making in convertibles in Britain. The rest of the group had turned in a small profit, he said.

Capel was caught with too long an exposure to convertibles in a falling market. The firm has since substantially reduced its exposure of positions and staff have been reduced from 40 to 31. Mr Barry Collins, the director responsible for the convertible bond operation, resigned in February.

The broking firm has had a rough ride in recent years and has been hit by a



Quinnen: took revenue to £200m

wave of resignations, including Mr Peter Quinnen, its chairman, who left in March. Under Mr Quinnen, aged 44, James Capel became an international broking firm with offices in Europe, North America and Asia, with revenue leaping from £30 million in 1985 to £200 million last year.

But the firm was badly hit by the world-wide stock market crash, incurring losses of £14 million in 1987 and £32 million in 1988. Capel returned to profit

last year, but Mr Quinnen resigned after Mr Purves refused to consider selling the operation. A Capel spokesman last night said there was no question of Hongkong Bank selling the broking firm.

At the annual meeting, Mr Purves also disclosed that the Hongkong Bank had injected a total of US\$300 million to boost the capital base of the Marine Midland Bank, its US subsidiary.

The infusion, made earlier this year, reverses in part the capital dilution Marine Midland suffered through property loan losses. Mr Purves said the US bank made "only a very small profit for the first quarter" and that it would refocus on its core regional business.

The Hongkong Bank of Canada, on the other hand, reported a large increase of net profits to Can\$10.1 million (£5.2 million) in the three months ended January 31, up 25 per cent from a year ago. The bank has an agreement to acquire the Lloyds Bank of Canada for Can\$190 million in a deal which will make Hong Kong Bank the largest foreign bank in Canada. "We are hopeful that regulatory approval for the purchase will be given during May," said Mr Purves.

Jarvis builds to £2.01m



Stepping out on the acquisition trail: Harvey Bard is looking for growth at Jarvis

Cautious
policy
pays off

By Melinda Wittstock

JARVIS Group, the restructuring and revitalized building contractor and property dealer, has credited a 33 per cent rise in pre-tax profits on an annualized basis to its policy of avoiding any involvement in speculative property development or housebuilding.

The company, which has twice been rescued in the past five years, made pre-tax profits of £2.01 million in the nine months to end-December, against £1.67 million in the year to end-March before a £719,000 exceptional item relating to a property sale.

Earnings per share for the nine months reached 7.4p, against 8.9p in the previous 12 months, equivalent to 11 per cent growth on an annualized basis. The final dividend is 1.05p, making 1.875p for the nine months, after 2.25p in the previous year - also an 11 per cent annualized increase.

Mr Harvey Bard, the chairman, said the group is looking to buy contracting companies in the Midlands and South-west. Gearing stands at just 11 per cent, and there is no off balance sheet financing.

Warning given
of shortfall
at Sketchley

SKETCHLEY, the beleaguered dry cleaning and industrial services group, has issued a warning that profits for the year will "fall materially short" of the £6 million forecast in February at the time of an aborted £126 million bid by Godfrey Davis (Melinda Wittstock writes).

And the company's new management, installed last month to ward off a second £93.4 million bid from Compass Group, said it was sacking three executive directors.

There had been "under-provisions" in the forecast, which Mr John Gillum, chairman, said were impossible to quantify until the audit for the year to end-March, 1990, was completed early next month.

Visa fights to stop
shops surcharging

By Our City Staff

VISA International, the credit card operator, launched a high court bid to block Government moves aimed at forcing the company to allow shops to discriminate against card-paying shoppers by surcharging them or offering discounts for cash.

Visa is asking Mr Justice Hodgson to declare that a decision of the Trade Secretary to end the company's "no discrimination" rule was "ultra vires, void and of no effect."

It is also challenging the Government's decision to lift restrictions imposed by Visa on the processing of credit card transactions on behalf of merchants. This function is undertaken by a limited number of specially designated "merchant acquirers."

Visa argues that the Government's action is based on a "legally flawed" report published last August by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission on credit card services in the UK.

The report concluded that Visa and the Visa banks were part of a complex monopoly and that the "no discrimination" rule operated against the public interest.

The report also found that a Visa policy that a Visa member organization was free to become a "merchant acquirer" in a country in which that member did not issue an acceptable number of Visa cards was against the public interest.

It also recommended that agreements between Visa and its UK members should not include rules or arrangements that had the effect of preventing those members from acting as merchant acquirers, as well as card issuers, from their date of membership of Visa.

Mr Christopher Carr QC, for Visa, argued that the MMC had erred in law in finding that there was a complex monopoly. Its conclusions on the "no discrimination" rule and the merchant acquiring issue were also wrong. The Secretary of State therefore had no power to act on the recommendations.

In March, the DTI abandoned attempts to wrest voluntary undertakings from Visa and said it was opting for statutory orders instead.

The hearing, which is expected to end Friday, continues today.

EC ban
on poison
pill
tacticsFrom Peter Gullford
Brussels

THE European Commission is to outlaw an array of poison pill tactics used by companies to fend off foreign takeovers, in response to complaints that British firms face insurmountable hidden barriers when launching overseas bids.

In particular, Brussels will adjust EC law to prevent a targeted company's management from buying up its shares while the bid is still open, unless it has authorization from a full shareholders' meeting.

It will also stop target firms from spiriting shares away into a subsidiary, and will abolish restrictions on shareholders' voting rights.

The Government gave the plans a cautious welcome, but said it would have liked even more ambitious measures to create a "level playing field" between Britain and EC states.

"This is a useful first step, but the Commission has done the basic minimum," said one Brussels-based diplomat.

The diplomat called for an end to "structural barriers," such as the way leading German banks control holdings in German companies at the expense of foreign bidders.

In a recommendation to EC trade ministers, Herr Martin Bangemann, the EC Commissioner for Industry and the Internal Market, said: "Take-over bids should be viewed in a positive light, in that they encourage the selection by market forces of the most competitive companies, and the restructuring of European companies, which is indispensable to meet international competition."

Nine-tenths of takeovers in the EC involve at least one British company, according to City estimates, leaving them unfairly exposed to foreign acquisitions but frustrated in their attempts to expand abroad. The guidelines will, none the less, still leave British firms exposed to foreign takeovers.

Under the measures, a subsidiary would be allowed to buy up no more of its parent company than the latter could buy of its subsidiary, and all voting rights attached to shares held by subsidiaries would be suspended.

In addition, non-voting preference shares could account for no more than half the total share capital.

Curbs on voting rights that prevent shareholders from selling their company out to a bidder would be banned.

VAT blessing, page 27

WHO HAS
MADE HOT NEWS
IN DICTATION

Improved bid by LAWS rejected

By Melinda Wittstock

AN IMPROVED £44.1 million (£42.8 million) bid has been launched by LAWS Group, the Dublin animal feed and fertilizer company, for R & H Hall, the Cork grain, feed and fuel merchant.

But Hall, which rejected the previous bid of £188p a share, rejected the improved cash and shares offer, valuing the shares at about £120p each.

It said the terms do not fully reflect the value of Hall and called on shareholders to take no action yet.

Hall said it would comment further when LAWS reports its interim results next month.

LAWS is offering Hall shareholders 10 new ordinary shares, plus £150p cash and £170p of convertible unsecured loan notes, for every 10 shares held.

The previous bid, worth about £12 million less, offered 17 LAWS shares for every 10 held in Hall plus £50p in cash for each Hall share.

There is a possibility the bid will be referred to the Republic's monopolies commission, as the combined group would command a 60 per cent share of the feed market. LAWS believes it has a "strong case" to present, particularly given the EC dimension.

But in a statement Hall said its board was gravely concerned at the monopoly implications "for Hall's customers and the industry as a whole."

LAWS also announced it has won an irrevocable undertaking by W & R Barnett, a family agribusiness in Northern Ireland, to accept the offer in respect of its 24.9 per cent stake. LAWS now controls 27.7 per cent of Hall.

Shares in Hall climbed £10p to £183p.

TEMPUS

Progress slows at Nu-Swift



Tough year: Paul, left, and John Hanson with Michael Rowley, finance director

NU-SWIFT, the fire services and office cleaning group, appears to have sold its French operation SICLI at an opportune moment. Profits have not, says Nu-Swift, showed the same growth as previous years. In the period to end-December, SICLI turned in profits only modestly ahead at £257 million (£27.65 million) compared with £244 million in 1988 on a turnover which was static.

But the sale, which took place after the year-end, is likely to leave some leeway to be recouped in the Nu-Swift profit and loss account during the current trading period.

The deal raised £184 million in cash, which has wiped out borrowings and left the group with healthy cash balances. But Nu-Swift would need to clear a 15 per cent rate of return to replace the profits forgone by the disposal.

All the more puzzling then that Nu-Swift says it has been exploring the possibility of diverting some of the surplus funds into property, where the returns, at least initially, are likely to be well below today's high rates.

As for last year, it was not one of Nu-Swift's vintage periods, with group profits rising modestly from £30.76 million to £31.3 million. This was reflected in the same-again dividend payment of 15p. The slowdown is emphasized by contrast with the recent surge in profits which were a mere £4.5 million in 1984.

Turnover in Britain was sluggish at £20.8 million against £19.4 million and pre-tax profits inched forward from £7.1 million to £7.3 million.

The results took in a first full-year contribution of £8.9 million from National Cleaning group in the US, but after amortization of goodwill and

financing costs, this shrank to £0.9 million.

Assuming Nu-Swift makes no acquisitions, the current year will probably show a fall in profits to about £28 million, putting the shares on an earnings multiple of 11.2. The likelihood is that Nu-Swift will use a good deal of the cash to make acquisitions both here and in the US.

Given the 57 per cent stake held by the chairman and the further 20 per cent owned by Mr Michael Ashcroft, the shares look to be abreast of events.

Parkland

IN VIEW of the devastating wave of closures that has swept the West Yorkshire woollen and worsted industries since the war, Parkland Textile has done well to survive, never mind prosper.

Three years ago, Messrs John and Paul Hanson took over the running of the company, which had been brought to the stock market in the

thirties by their father and uncle. Profits rose to £2.57 million in 1988-89, more than double the £1.22 million made in 1985-86, the year before they took charge.

However, that recent figure was in fact no higher than Parkland achieved a decade ago, and since last year trading conditions have deteriorated markedly. The company gave warning in March that a sharp fall in demand from British retailers in the third and fourth quarters meant that profits in 1989-90 would drop to between £1.90 million and £2.05 million.

The final outcome was at the top end of that range at £2.04 million, a fall of 21 per cent. Fortunately, earnings per share were only 1 pence down at 23.9p, as Parkland's high capital spending programme led to a two-thirds fall in the tax charge.

Parkland expects the current year will be "extremely tough," though sales so far are 15 per cent up. Analysts forecast only a modest reduction in profits to £2 million, but a return to a more normal tax charge will cut earnings to 19p, leaving the non-voting A shares, up 8p at 118p, on a prospective p/e ratio of 6 and yielding 7.6 per cent.

The good news is that a £4.2 million property surplus has taken asset backing to more than 300p per share. But as 205p, the market appears to think the Hanson brothers are not going to take a really radical approach to unlocking the value in their company while they are protected by a two-tier voting structure.

UK Land

THINGS have definitely become a little strange when a two-thirds fall in pre-tax profits prompts a rise in a company's share price.

In the battle-scarred property sector, a fall in interim pre-tax profits from £4.43 million to £1.72 million saw the price of shares in UK Land

rise 20p to 335p, adding to the 40p they put on the week before.

Clearly, the market had been expecting a far worse picture to emerge.

UK Land gives the appearance of moving in the right direction. The big impediment is whether the dreadful state of the real property market will allow it to continue to put its house in order.

The biggest positive step is the reduction in the company's gearing, down from an eye-watering 300 per cent last September, to a still painful but more manageable 125 per cent. As normal, no interim dividend is paid.

But there are still serious grounds for concern. The profit and loss account shows interest payable in the six months to March of £1.23 million. But a note to the accounts shows that a further £1.3 million of interest has been capitalized against the company's development programme.

That means a total of £2.53 million of interest charges has been paid out on total borrowings of £44 million, during a period when rents brought in only £1.94 million. The implication would have been quite clear to Mr Mowbray.

Shareholders should not relax until further disposals—or increased rents—result in rental income covering interest charges and, preferably, administrative expenses.

The board, under Mr Colin Tett, the chairman, is working hard in that direction.

It recently painted south London's Elephant & Castle shopping centre bright pink, a move which, if nothing else, successfully increased the public's awareness of the 1960s centre.

But further disposals into a lacklustre market will have to be made before the shares come back into favour.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Dividend uncovered at Associated Paper

ASSOCIATED Paper Industries is paying out more in interim dividends than it earned in net profits in the six months ended March, when pre-tax profits fell from £1.04 million to £817,000. The dividend is held at 2.75p, costing £581,000 and payable on July 2, on earnings of 2.5p a share or a net profit of £547,000.

Mr Charles Rawlinson, the chairman, says the refocusing of API, including the final withdrawal from paper-making, is now substantially complete. There was a £723,000 extraordinary charge in the half-year taken below the pre-tax line. Interim turnover was £38.3 million (£39.7 million).

Tomson in £61m rights

TOMSON Pacific, which has agreed to pay HK\$2 billion for Bond Corp Holding's 61 per cent stake in Hong Kong-listed Bond Corp International, is raising about HK\$800 million (£61.5 million) in a one-for-one rights issue, at HK\$0.80 a share, accompanied by an issue of one new 1993 warrant for every 10 rights shares.

Jackson leaps to £3.75m

JACKSON Group, the East Anglian construction and property company, boosted pre-tax profits by 29 per cent to £3.75 million in 1989. Sales rose by 35 per cent to £60.6 million and earnings per share rose from 8.6p to 11.2p. A final dividend of 2p is proposed, making the total for the year 3.2p, up from 2.65p. Shares in the group jumped 10p to 118p.

El Oro payout rises

EL ORO Mining & Exploration Company and the Exploration Company—of which El Oro holds 45.06 per cent, and which has 49.85 per cent of El Oro—are both raising their only dividends for the year ended December.

El Oro's dividend rises from 10p to 12p following a net profit of £1.87 million (£1.16 million), and Exploration's dividend rises from 5p to 6p a share after net profits of £2.11 million (£1.48 million). El Oro reports a net asset value of £10.62 a share, and Exploration a net worth of 487.5p a share at balance sheet date. El Oro shares traded at 388p yesterday, and Exploration shares at 185p.

Hay profits rise to £1.9m

NORMAN Hay, the metals and plastics processing group, lifted pre-tax profits from £1.82 million to £1.97 million in the year to end-December, on turnover up from £16 million to £17.1 million. Earnings per share rose from 7.7p to 8.05p. The final dividend is maintained at 1.5p, making 2.26p (2.16p) for the year. The shares lost 3p to 85p.

Ericsson set for 25% rise

LM ERICSSON, the Swedish telecommunications group, has forecast a 25 per cent profit rise for the current year, compared with SKr 3.7 billion (£370 million) in 1989. The company's first quarter results showed an increase in pre-tax profits from SKr609 million to SKr1.18 billion. Net earnings per share rose to SKr17.25 from SKr9.19.

The Guinness trial

Saunders 'persuaded' about fees to advisers

By A Correspondent

THE sacked Guinness chief Ernest Saunders was "persuaded" that the company should pay extremely large success fees to advisers after the bitter takeover battle for Distillers, a court heard yesterday.

The payments were £3 million to Mr Anthony Parnes, the stockbroker; a similar figure to Sir Jack Lyons, the millionaire financier; and £5.2 million to Mr Tom Ward, the American lawyer and Guinness director.

Mr Saunders told Department of Trade inspectors, appointed to inquire into the £2.7 billion takeover of Distillers, that the payments to Mr Parnes and Sir Jack were American-style success fees.

Transcripts of interviews with DTI inspectors in February, 1987, were read at Southwark Crown Court.

He told one inspector, Mr David Donaldson, QC, that Mr Olivier Roux, the former Guinness finance director, felt the pair had "performed extremely valuable services."

Mr Donaldson asked: "You were the senior director of this company, didn't you form your own view about whether it was appropriate to spend £3 million of shareholders' money paying Parnes?"

Mr Saunders replied: "I was persuaded, as I recall, that Parnes provided exceptionally

dedicated services to Olivier Roux during the bid."

And he claimed the fees had been discussed in principle and, in time, would have come before the executive committee at Guinness.

But Mr Donaldson asked if Mr Saunders had taken the view that Mr Parnes was worth five times more than Cazenove, Guinness' main broker, which was paid £600,000.

"At the time concerned, I was persuaded that this was a success fee for the exceptional work Parnes conducted for Roux," replied Mr Saunders.

And he said that the payment was for valuable market intelligence provided by Mr Parnes.

But Mr Donaldson commented: "On that basis, you valued Parnes at £9 million a year."

Mr Saunders replied: "Well, the American system, as I understand it, of success fees doesn't work quite like that."

He said it was felt that "people who put themselves out exceptionally should be exceptionally rewarded."

Mr Donaldson asked if, with hindsight, the fees were too large. Mr Saunders replied: "Probably."

Mr Saunders said the payment for Sir Jack was for his business contacts at board level and getting companies to

assent Distillers shares to Guinness.

And he said the payment to Mr Ward was half a success fee and half as a payment for him remaining in this country and working for Guinness, rather than returning to his practice in the USA.

Mr Saunders said he could not recall whether he had told the board of the payments to Mr Parnes and Sir Jack, but believed he may have discussed Mr Ward's payment with Lord Iveagh, the Guinness president.

He denied knowing of the other payments, which total £25 million, given after the bid.

But he said he would expect them all to have come routinely before the board and go before the company's auditors.

Mr Saunders, aged 54; Mr Gerald Ronson, aged 50, head of Heron Corporation; Mr Parnes, aged 44; and Sir Jack, aged 74, variously deny 24 charges including theft, false accounting and breaches of the Companies Act.

It is alleged an illegal share support operation was mounted to ensure a Guinness victory over Argyll, with success fees and indemnities being paid to investors recruited to the brewing group's cause.

The trial continues today.

Fiat plans to boost dividends

Turin FIAT proposes raising its dividends for 1989 on its ordinary and preferred shares to 370 lire (18p) from £320 in 1988 and its savings share dividend to £400 from £350. Fiat's shareholders will review the proposals at the annual meeting on June 28.

The company also said that it has spent £86 billion (£288 million) so far under its £1,000 billion share buy-back programme, approved last June.

Fiat has bought back 46.7 million ordinary shares, 7.74 million preferred shares and 6.05 million savings shares. The totals reflect purchases made up to yesterday.

Fiat's shares have climbed steadily on the Milan bourse in the last week on expectations of higher dividends.

The ordinary shares closed nearly 1 per cent higher at £1.0479, but fell yesterday afternoon to £1.0450 before the company released its full 1989 results. Fiat had earlier announced a 9 per cent rise in consolidated net profits.

(Reuters)

Germans 'need to outlaw insiders'

By Wolfgang Münchau
European Business Correspondent

WEST Germany should adopt tough insider dealing rules if Frankfurt is to succeed in rivaling London as one of Europe's leading financial centres, according to Herr Hilmar Kopper, chief executive of Deutsche Bank.

Herr Kopper's comments mark a change of heart by West Germany's most influential financial institution. Until last year, Deutsche Bank, which owns Morgan Grenfell, the merchant bank, has maintained that current regulations were sufficient.

However, the change of mood comes amid hopes that Frankfurt, tipped as the front-runner to house a European central bank, has a chance of becoming Europe's leading financial centre.

Insider dealing is not a criminal or civil offence in West Germany. It is governed by a gentleman's agreement, which aims to exclude known insider dealers from conducting business in Frankfurt.

However, in the wake of harmonization of the rules governing the European securities industry, West Ger-



Kopper: change of heart

any's *laissez-faire* attitude may no longer be tenable.

Herr Kopper said: "If we want to play the international game, we need rules that match the situation."

He added that the current system was not adequate, as some securities firms have refused to sign the voluntary agreement. He favours the British approach of making insider dealing a criminal offence. Herr Kopper has also indicated that other parts of West German security legislation would have to go, in particular the practice of limiting voting rights, aimed at protecting German companies against hostile bids.



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Customs support EC plan to simplify VAT checks

From Peter Gaillard, Brussels

EUROPEAN customs authorities have given their blessing to an EC strategy designed to scrap most VAT checks at EC borders after 1992.

They will be replaced instead by simplified paperwork and tougher policing against tax evasion among Europe's biggest traders.

Mr Brian Unwin, chairman of Britain's Customs and Excise, welcomed the plans, which were endorsed yesterday by the European Commission. He said: "They will mean much less paperwork and a streamlined system for many traders."

Customs were also satisfied

the proposals would give them built-in safeguards to crack down on any surge in fraud when tax borders disappear.

However, Brussels plans to scrap the new proposals by 1997 in favour of a more radical tax regime, under which VAT on goods would be levied in their country of origin.

Under the latest plans, VAT will still be collected in the country where goods are consumed, although motor vehicles and mail order catalogue purchases will be taxed where the owner resides. Brussels fears a stampede of mail order firms wishing to set up in Luxembourg, where VAT rates are the lowest in the EC.

Under the new scheme, traders would no longer have to stop at EC border posts, and the Single Administrative Document (SAD) that they have to show at every crossing would be abolished.

Instead, small firms need only add import and export statistics to their quarterly VAT returns, while the top 20 per cent of Europe's traders would have to submit additional information on the origin, destination, cost and description of their bulk merchandise. Importers will no longer have to answer the 54 questions in the SAD, now required for every import.

The Commission is clearly

singling out the bigger traders, who carry 80 per cent of EC cross-border trade, for special surveillance. But the proposals give no clear mention of where the dividing line between small and large traders will fall.

Current VAT rates will not be directly affected, although Mme Christiane Scrivener, EC Tax Commissioner, implied greater intra-EC trade would allow market forces to "give a pretty good nudge" to bring VAT rates together.

The change will mean that 1,500 Customs and Excise staff working on VAT matters at ports and airports will transfer to roles at area offices.

Porton links with St George's



Collaborators: John Burke, Porton's chief operating officer (left), and Professor Asscher, dean of St George's

PORTON International, the biotechnology group angling to buy an important government health laboratory through privatization, has linked with south London's St George's, one of Britain's leading hospital medical schools (Melinda Wittstock writes).

An innovative deal allows Porton to exploit commercially new drugs and treatments created at the school over the next 20 years. It will invest a minimum

of £500,000 a year, or £10 million in total, towards development costs, and will own the patents to all the new products, with St George's set to receive royalty payments of between 3 and 5 per cent, depending on whether it or Porton has initiated the research.

If the research, on heart disease, virology and stomach disorders, is commercially viable, St George's will plough its royalty earnings back into

further research and development. The deal does not prevent St George's from linking with other commercial groups on other projects should Porton not show an interest.

"This is not a takeover, it's a collaboration. We looked long and hard for the right partner. But we must make sure we maintain the virginity of academia," said Professor William Asscher, the dean.

R-R wins \$600m engine contract

By Harvey Elliott
Air Correspondent

ROLLS-ROYCE has clinched a \$600 million deal to supply the world's biggest package delivery airline with replacement engines for its 80 Boeing 727 jets.

United Parcel Service, which is based in Greenwich, Connecticut, and flies nearly 3 billion packages and documents to the 50 American states and more than 180 countries, has become the launch customer for Rolls-Royce's new Tay engine.

Many more airlines are expected to follow suit. Tough noise regulations introduced as a result of increasing concern about noise pollution at airports round the world, especially in the US, had threatened to make many older jets obsolete. But Rolls-Royce produced the Tay as a replacement engine which would be much quieter and provide greater fuel efficiency.

UPS operates mainly at night, but has been increasingly forced to stop flying into the growing number of noise-sensitive airports in the US. Replacing its entire fleet of 80 aircraft would have proved prohibitively expensive. The Tay is a simple and comparatively cheap alternative. Rolls-Royce will supply a total of 280 of the engines to UPS from next year.

It is estimated that more than 3,000 commercial aircraft worldwide fail to meet the new noise regulations — known as Chapter Three requirements — and Rolls-Royce is confident that the Tay will be chosen to prolong the life of many of them.

The Tay 650 is a development of the successful Spey engine and was designed for use on the new Fokker 100, Gulfstream IV and aircraft of similar size. It also fits neatly into such ageing jets as the 727 and the BAC 1-11, many of which will have to be scrapped unless they can be made to, operate more quietly.

As well as providing a 12 per cent improvement in fuel economy, extended range and reduced maintenance costs, the Tay reduces the area over which noise levels reach 85 decibels by nearly 75 per cent during full-power take off.

COMMENT

Restoring order in the growing chaos at B&C

Leaving aside risky accounting policies and the possibility of large-scale fraud at Atlantic Computers, virtually all the problems which have beset British & Commonwealth can be traced to the rise in interest rates. High interest rates left their black spot on money broking, computer leasing, fund management and virtually every other activity which B&C engaged in. John Gunn, architect of B&C, found himself operating in an unexpectedly hostile environment, and what were profits when base rates were below 10 per cent became losses when they moved into double figures, and stayed there.

This is not to say that Gunn is deserving of sympathy: he made a devastating business error by opting for the mix of businesses that he did, and by taking the "earnings" side of B&C while leaving the "assets" with the Cayzer family. He could see the upside, but failed to appreciate the downside. Successful business has to measure the downside first.

But the hostile interest-rate environment may be a factor in what seems to be a determined effort to keep B&C afloat when other companies would have been allowed to fail. The country has little real need of financial conglomerates such as B&C, and a system which will allow shipyards to go to the wall while edifices such as B&C are kept alive may have a warped hierarchy of values. That said, the reputation of the

City of London needs some protection, especially in the light of those in Europe who would seek to steal its crown.

Holders of the 7½ per cent convertible loan stock who met yesterday, after an extraordinary cat-and-mouse game with the media which was won by the fourth estate (by the time the meeting broke up at its "secret" location, even the television cameras had arrived), will probably be brought to heel by the Old Lady, even though the mood of the meeting was to pull the plug, demand repayment, and allow the other creditors to take their chances. Law Debenture Corporation has wisely opted out of advising them because of possible conflicts between different classes of creditors.

Until we see the colour of the B&C reconstruction, the Royal Exchange Trust, which has taken on Law Debenture's role for the 7½ per cent convertible loan stock, would do well to advise the holders to sit on their hands.

There is more to be gained for the City than lost by agreeing to an orderly scheme of reconstruction, since many of the holders of the convertible stock are probably up to their armpits in other forms of B&C debt and equity. B&C would seek protection from creditors in the event that push by the convertible holders threatens to shove it into bankruptcy. Better by far that B&C makes its own plans, in conjunction with all its creditors. Wouldn't you agree, Ma'am?

In the red at the Euro bank

The putative Anglo-French deal to site the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development in London — but make Mitterrand aide Jacques Attali its first chief executive — may still prove embarrassing. Forty other EBRD members, some of which have also been angling to host the bank, are supposed to decide the issue on May 30 and the combined British and French vote, if also backed by the United States, would still amount to only 27 per cent.

Many will surely accept the logic of siting the bank in Europe's premier financial centre, rather than somewhere nearer the borrowers, such as Vienna. But they may still wonder why yet another international institution has to be headed by a Frenchman.

The French government, for whom the EBRD scheme was apparently a concession made to get its way on IMF quotas, may also have been thinking

ahead to the putative European central bank. Since it would be hard to stop this being run by a German, it will be bargaining hard to have it sited in Paris. The most optimistic hope for the British is that the central bank could be on the lines of the US Federal Reserve Board, with the Bank of England acting as its agent in financial markets.

As a consolation prize, however, having the EBRD in London could be extremely valuable. The bank should create 500 and possibly up to 1,000 jobs directly. There is plenty of spare quality office space — and investment bankers to deal with the companies who will account for most of the borrowings.

London needs a boost to its status as Europe's financial centre in the face of increased competition from Paris and Frankfurt, particularly in the bond markets.

David Brewerton

Groewood raises stake in Marians

By Matthew Bond

GROVEWOOD Securities, in bid talks with Priest Marians, the West End property group, has increased its interest in the company to 23.4 per cent.

The increase resulted from Groewood's conversion of £2.21 million of convertible unsecured loan stock issue. It is now Priest Marian's second largest shareholder behind JMB Realty, the US developer with 28.3 per cent.

Realty took over Randsworth Trust, the property company formerly chaired by Mr David Holland, now chairman of Groewood Securities.

Mr Holland has been joined on the Groewood board by

Mr Tony Brayford, a former director of Randsworth and the third such on the Groewood board.

Although talks are proceeding, Groewood is unlikely to make an offer for Priest Marians until it has resolved its £13 million bid for Early's of Witney, the property-rich blanket maker. It now has acceptances from shareholders speaking for 64 per cent.

A bid for Priest Marians could also be dependent on that group's disposal programme. Yesterday it announced it had raised £2.7 million from the sale of shares in Marina Developments.

N Sea gas projects given go-ahead

By Colin Narborough

THE Government has given the go-ahead to a North Sea gas field development and a major undersea pipeline to the north west of the UK.

Mr Peter Morrison, the Energy Minister, announced formal approval for the projects yesterday at the Offshore Technology Conference in Houston, Texas.

Arco, the US energy group, can now proceed with its £200 million development of the Pickerrill field, off the coast of East Anglia. Recoverable reserves are estimated at 202 billion cubic feet, with a field life of 18 years. Mobil received

the go-ahead to build a 200-mile pipeline worth £190 million to bring gas from the Beryl fields to St Fergus on the Scottish mainland.

Mr Morrison said he was pleased that Arco was placing a "very substantial" part of the work with the British offshore industry.

Pickerrill, which will consist of two normally unmanned platforms linked by a pipeline, will bring gas ashore to the Lincolnshire Offshore Gas Gathering System.

The 30-inch diameter Beryl pipeline will be linked with a new gas terminal Mobil is planning at St Fergus.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Bringing home the bacon

AS FAST as some City firms quit market-making, saying over-capacity and low volumes have made it a loss-making exercise, others spring up to fill in the gaps. Whitefriars, a small international firm, hitherto an agency broker, is about to make markets in Danish securities — since Bikuben, the third largest bank in Denmark, has just raised its stake in the firm from 15 to 86 per cent — and some British stocks. Managing director Robin Hendy, ex-Bisgood Bishop, County NatWest — where he was head of sales trading — and ANZ Bank, claims that his timing could not be better. Since the British stocks Whitefriars will be dealing in will be smaller companies — USMs and gammas — he has had considerable support from other City institutions. "Smaller companies are out of favour at the moment and that makes it a good time to get into it," Hendy says. "And since it will improve liquidity among smaller companies, existing brokers and City institutions have been very supportive."

Whitefriars has a second office in Wolverhampton, which is its research base, and it is thus involved with a number of small companies in that area. "Initially we will be concentrating on those British companies we have a specialist knowledge of," he adds.

Accounts vetted
CITY workers who were accused by aspiring vets clutching collection tins at Bank

Tube station will be pleased to hear that students at the Royal Veterinary College — part of the University of London — are anxious to stay on the right side of the forces of law. City of London police granted a licence for the collection on January 25 on the understanding that accounts would be published in a newspaper which circulates in the Square Mile. And they now dutifully tell me that £1,125.59 was raised. After the deduction of expenses of £1.32 they sent £374.79 each to Action for Research into MS and Animal Care Trust and a further £124.90 each to Childline, Cystic Fibrosis Research Trust and WWF.

AS the City attempted to come to terms with the new dialling codes for London, some witty soul invented a new nick-name for British Telecom boss Iain Vallance — Lord of the Re-Rings.

Risk whik
From the Pentagon to County NatWest... but not quite in one fell swoop. Gregory Kip-



nis, hitherto responsible for all trading and risk activities at Morgan Stanley — and on the board of the New York Futures Exchange to boot — has been snapped up by County NatWest as head of its risk management. Risk management is one of the three key areas in the firm, as identified by its comparatively new chief executive, Tim Ferguson, with customer services and operations. Kipnis, an American of Belgian parentage — assigned to the Pentagon as an economist during his years in the US Air Force in the late 1960s — and at present based in New York, is therefore a key appointment for Ferguson.

"He is very important to us since he will have traders reporting to him within Europe and he will have capital responsibility for the rest of the world — managing the equity balance sheet worldwide," says Ferguson.

Kipnis, aged 48, will be moving from New York to London in time for his May 21 start date, with his family following in a year or so. Ferguson says he was forced to recruit an American because there simply was no home grown talent available. "There is no one in the London market who really manages risk in the way we are looking to do it," he says.

Anyone hoping for promotion or a pay rise in these lean times in the Square Mile should watch their weight. American researchers claim that business executives who are tall and slim stand a better chance of a fat pay packet than their tubby colleagues. So much so that while the average salary for a professional person

in the US is \$47,762 a year, a six feet tall man can expect all of \$4,676 more.

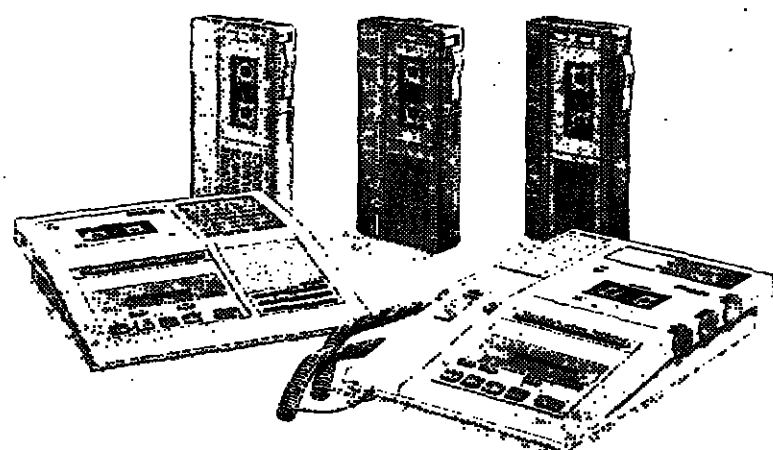
Educating Janet

There are clearly no limits to the multi-talented Janet Cohen. Apart from being a corporate finance director at Charterhouse merchant bank, restaurateur — she helped start two successful London restaurants Café Pelican and Pelican du Sud and is still a part-owner — and novelist, with her third thriller, *Death of a Partner* due to be published this year, Cohen, aged 49, is now taking up a public office. She will become one of the two "outsiders" on the School Examinations and Assessment Council, which entails a commitment of 20 days a year. The council advises Education Minister John MacGregor on all matters concerning the performance assessment of schoolchildren. An associate fellow of Newnham College, Cambridge, who once worked on a building site doing industrial relations, Cohen now has three school-age children and is, she says, "extremely interested in education."

As a former civil servant — with the Department of Trade and Industry — she should certainly be particularly useful. But her introduction to MacGregor dates, she reveals, from a far more colourful event. "We met when we were both doing *Any Questions* three years ago and he was then chief secretary to the Treasury. We got on straight away and he came round for lunch..."

Carol Leonard

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Portfolio PLATINUM

From your Portfolio Platinum card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the daily prize money stated. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Gain or loss
1	Photo-Me	Industrials L-R	
2	WPP	Paper, Print, Adv	
3	THORN EMI (a)	Electronics	
4	Grain Processing	Electronics E-K	
5	BICC (a)	Electronics	
6	Claydon	Property	
7	Roitchild (J) Ltd	Banking/Discount	
8	Midland (a)	Banking/Discount	
9	ECC Group (a)	Industrials E-K	
10	Lawrence (Walter)	Building/Roads	
11	Dalgety (a)	Food	
12	Greysteel	Property	
13	Br Land (a)	Property	
14	Tesco (a)	Food	
15	Land Ser (a)	Property	
16	Hayward Williams	Building/Roads	
17	Berrford (a)	Food	
18	Urd Brucay (a)	Food	
19	Gevo	Food	
20	MEPC (a)	Property	
21	Warrior	Property	
22	Menzies (John)	Drapers/Stores	
23	Gleeson (M)	Building/Roads	
24	Dunelm (a)	Drapers/Stores	
25	Nobis Gp	Industrials L-R	
26	GKN (a)	Industrials E-K	
27	Bodyscot	Industrials A-D	
28	Tilbury Group	Building/Roads	
29	Vau Group	Breweries	
30	Burnham (a)	Oil/Gas	
31	Slough Estates (a)	Property	
32	AA (a)	Transport	
33	North West	Water	
34	Foralls	Industrials L-R	
35	Barclays (a)	Banking/Discount	
36	Wellcome (a)	Industrials S-Z	
37	Honda Motor	Motors/Aircraft	
38	Taylor Woodrow (a)	Building/Roads	
39	Yorkshire Water	Water	
40	ASW	Industrials A-D	
41	Smurfit (a)	Paper, Print, Adv	
42	South West	Water	
43	Boatner	Industrials A-D	
44	Times Newspapers Ltd	Daily Total	

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £8,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	WEEKLY TOTAL

There were no valid claims for yesterday's £2,000 Portfolio Platinum prize. The prize money is carried forward to today's game, now worth £4,000.

BRITISH FUNDS

1990	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
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SHORTS (Under Five Years)

1990	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
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FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

1990	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
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OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

1990	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
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UNDATED

1990	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
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INDEX-LINKED

1990	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
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BANKS, DISCOUNT HP

1990	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
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ELECTRICALS

1990	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
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INDUSTRIALS A-D

1990	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
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INDUSTRIALS E-K

1990	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
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INDUSTRIALS L-R

1990	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
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INDUSTRIALS S-Z

1990	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
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OVERSEAS TRADERS

1990	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
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PAPER, PRINT, ADVERTISING

1990	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
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PROPERTY

1990	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
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SHOES, LEATHER

1990	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
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TEXTILES

1990	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
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TOBACCOS

1990	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
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TRANSPORT

1990	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
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WATER

1990	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
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STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Bear squeeze

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began April 30. Dealings end May 11. Settlement day May 21.
\$Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (a) denotes Alpha Stocks.

(VOLUMES: PAGE 28).

BREWERIES

1990	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
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BUILDING, ROADS

1990	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
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FINANCE, LAND

1990	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
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FINANCIAL TRUSTS

1990	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
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FOODS

1990	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
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HOTELS, CATERERS

1990	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
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DRAPERY, STORES

1990	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
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INDUSTRIALS A-D

1990	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
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INDUSTRIALS E-K

1990	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
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INDUSTRIALS L-R

1990	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
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INDUSTRIALS S-Z

1990	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
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OVERSEAS TRADERS

1990	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
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PAPER, PRINT, ADVERTISING

1990	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
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PROPERTY

1990	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
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SHOES, LEATHER

1990	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
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TEXTILES

1990	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
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TOBACCOS

1990	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
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TRANSPORT

1990	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
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WATER

1990	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
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BREWERIES

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INDUSTRIALS E-K

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INDUSTRIALS L-R

1990	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
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INDUSTRIALS S-Z

1990	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
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OVERSEAS TRADERS

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TEXTILES

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TOBACCOS

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WATER

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INDUSTRIALS L-R

1990	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
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Evered expands further in US

By Jeremy Andrews

EVERED, the acquisitive quarry group, is to spend as much as £25 million on the purchase of up to five more businesses in the US, raising its output of ready-mixed concrete there from 2 to 3 million tonnes a year.

The move comes only four months after it spent £141 million on a British dredging business and a large limestone quarry near Washington DC, though this time the vendors will accept up to two-thirds of the purchase consideration in Evered shares.

The company is paying \$38.4 million for Super Concrete Corporation, Silver Hill Concrete, Silver Hill Aggregate and Merit Concrete, of which 122.3 million will be satisfied by the issue of 11.1 million shares. Evered also has an option to buy Materials Industries for \$5 million in cash by the end of July.

These businesses run 15 ready-mixed concrete plants and 150 delivery trucks in Maryland and the Washington DC area and will provide a significant outlet for the Millville quarry, bought by Evered in January.

The assets being acquired had a book value of \$10.2 million in December 1988, a year in which the businesses made combined pre-tax profits of \$3.3 million. Although it appears that Evered is paying more than 20 times historic earnings, Mr John Ford, the finance director, said he was confident the acquisitions would not dilute earnings.

The profits figures were out of date and the performance of the companies had improved since 1988, he added. By putting the businesses together, which had hitherto been managed separately, better selling and buying prices could be achieved and administrative economies could be made.

Under private ownership the businesses had been run to minimize taxation, whereas Evered would run them to maximize profits, he said.

Although Evered will be taking on \$24 million of debts from the operations, Mr Ford did not expect group borrowings to exceed 50 per cent of shareholders' funds.

Campeau prepares to meet debts by Canadian disposals

From John Durie
New York

CAMPEAU Corporation has said it will offload a substantial proportion of its Canadian property interests to meet debt obligations.

The decision was announced in a circular to debenture holders, who are meeting on June 1 to consider the latest options for the financially-troubled empire of Mr Robert Campeau, the Canadian property developer.

Campeau has a Canadian property empire worth approximately \$3 billion with centres in Toronto, Montreal and Ottawa.

A spokesman for the company said just how much would be sold would depend on talks with the company's leading creditors and its success in finding another equity partner for the group.

The leading creditors are Olympia and York Development, which is owned by the Reichman family, which has debentures worth \$260 million and last year assumed \$225 million in debt.

The Edward De Bartolo Corporation, the San Francisco property developer has a \$450 million loan to



Campeau: talks are vital

Campeau's US retail interests, but this is guaranteed by Campeau Corporation.

Campeau is talking to both parties, as well as seeking possible new equity investments for the group.

The success of these talks will determine just how much of Mr Campeau's Canadian property empire must be sold. His total debts related to property have not been revealed, apart from the money owed to Olympia and York and a \$137.7 million in debentures outstanding.

Last week, Campeau's US retail division called off the

planned sale of its Bloomingdale's chain after failing to find a buyer willing to pay the \$1 billion sought by the group.

Federated and Allied department stores, the US retail operations, reported a \$2.4 billion loss after writing off \$1.2 billion in goodwill, and paying net interest of \$806.7 million as part of the \$6.6 billion Campeau took on in its purchase of the Federated department stores in May, 1988.

In operating terms, the department stores are in good shape after sales increases last year of 7 per cent, leaving cash on hand, as at April 25, of \$552 million.

There is also an undrawn line of credit for working capital of \$700 million.

The highest bid for Bloomingdale's was only \$850 million.

A spokesman for Federated added that the company also felt it would be better to keep the chain within the group to help it meet interest payments.

Federated and Allied filed for bankruptcy protection in January this year and is due to present a detailed business plan to the US Bankruptcy Court next month.

Cronite slips to interim £781,000

By Philip Pangalos

PRE-TAX profits at the Cronite Group, a processor of nickel alloys and steel stockholder, slipped from £1.08 million to £781,000 in the six months to end-March, on turnover down from £27.2 million to £21.1 million.

The downturn was entirely due to Cronite Alloys, the company's metal processing subsidiary, which was hit by a temporary withdrawal from the market of its largest customer - accounting for about half of its business.

Mr James Lindsay-German, chief executive, said this customer had now come back and was "buying strongly."

Earnings per share are reduced from 5.2p to 3.1p, but the interim dividend is maintained at 1.5p.

Mr Lindsay-German said the company's stockholding businesses showed improvement. As alloys was a major profit earner in 1989, accounting for about 30 per cent of group profits, it was not possible to make up its contribution from other activities, he added.

The company said the group's manufacturing units performed well during the half-year, with Cronite Castings and Atkinsons both substantially ahead of the same period last year.

Overall profits were also affected by higher interest charges, up 16 per cent to £452,000 due to higher rates and investments in Abtex, the fire extinguisher manufacturer, and ABC Powders, which makes extinguisher powder.

Mr Lindsay-German said the fire extinguisher companies had not made a contribution this time but were expected to do so in the second half, although the group was unlikely to match last year's full-year profits. The shares were unchanged at 52p.

Bid clearance

BRUSSELS has given the go-ahead for British Steel's acquisition of C Walker & Sons, declaring it compatible with monopoly rules governing steel products sold in the European Community.

BUSINESS LETTERS

Softer schedule for cutting overseas funding

From the Chairman
Biwater Ltd

Sir, May I add my name to the growing concern, which a number of major project contractors are expressing, regarding the changes in support of major projects overseas by the Government's Export Credit Guarantee Department.

We acknowledge the necessity for adjustments in Country support, in line with the prevailing economic circumstances of that country. How-

ever, it is imperative that these adjustments are made without loss of credibility by any of the parties, including the contractor, UK industry and Her Majesty's Government.

My proposal is that, should the criteria for financial support of a particular country need to be reduced, then such change should be made only at the time of OECD consensus rates (i.e. 6 monthly) and that this criterion be made known

to contractors and clients alike at the outset. This proposal would avoid the current practice of instant, unwarned, rug-pulling from under both the Contractor's and his Client's feet.

Yours faithfully,
ADRIAN E. WHITE,
Biwater Ltd,
Biwater House,
Station Approach,
Surrey,
May 1.

Institutions' policy hits investors

From Mr T. D. Brougham

Sir, I am sure other small shareholders share my astonishment, not to say sense of outrage, at the way directors of companies continue to vote themselves more money and share options even when their direction has evidently been unsuccessful.

I know from experience that any protest is not treated seriously.

In 1986, I was a founding shareholder in Charles Barker, a public relations and recruitment firm. After a steady fall in the value of its shares, the directors eventually sold off large parts of the company and renamed it BNB Resources. The shares now stand at 53 per cent of their issue value.

This dismal performance does not stop the ex-chairman, who led this decline, seeking re-election as a non-executive director. Furthermore, the directors extract £1.5 million in emoluments while the shareholders receive £843,000 in dividends.

I suppose that while institutional investors continue to have a laissez-faire policy to

the management of the companies in which they have investments, the level and form of directors' emoluments will continue to be set by peer approval, and investors will foot the rising bill whether they like it or not. Unless, that is, you, Sir, would undertake a crusade on our behalf.

Yours faithfully,
T. D. BROUGHAM,
Melbury,
Constitution Hill,
Woking,
Surrey,
April 25.

Insurance pays out

From Mr D. Kerr

Dear Sir, This last week I received the annual reports of two concerns, the well-known engineering firm of Hawker Siddeley and the equally well-known life insurance company, Equitable Life.

Reading the reports, I noticed that Hawker Siddeley had 21,200 employees in the UK of whom 108 were paid in the £30-50,000 bracket and 25 in the £50-100,000 bracket.

Equitable Life, on the other hand, with 1,693 staff had 190 paid in the £30-50,000 bracket and 25 in the £50-100,000 bracket, and a further 33 fell between £100,000 and

Not in on secret

From Mr J. S. Goddard

Dear Sir, Today's Business Section front page article: "He [John Banham] attacked the going-rate concept in wage negotiations."

Today's City Diary: "Williams Holdings' chief Nigel Rudd... who has just increased his pay from £403,000 to £594,000 a year."

Is there something we ordinary waged mortals should be told?

Yours faithfully,
J. S. GODDARD,
"Brynheullos",
Llanddewi Brefi,
Tregaron,
Dyfed.

Insider feelings

From Mr Steven Wilson

Sir, Yet again insider dealing is dismissed as a victimless crime (Norman Barry, The Times, May 3).

If I invested my life savings in the shares of a company and the vendor had insider knowledge which implied, correctly, that the company would soon be bankrupt, I am confident that I would feel victimized.

Yours faithfully,
STEVEN WILSON,
14 Clifton Place,
Rotherhithe,
London,
May 3.

clearest implication of my ironic remarks about GEC was that it was lucky for British industry that figures like Arnold Weinstock were independent and far-sighted enough to resist the short-term criticism that one has read so much of over the years.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL GRADE,
Channel Four Television,
60 Charlotte Street,
W1,
April 30.

Letters to The Times Business and Finance section can be sent by fax on 071 782 5112.

Missing the Grade

From the Chief Executive
Channel Four Television
Company Limited

Sir, May I be permitted to add the missing context to your City Diary item "City fails the Grade" (April 27) in which you quote me as saying at a recent dinner: "The City does not understand broadcasting, it hardly understands ICI and it certainly doesn't understand Arnold Weinstock, or else why is he still running GEC?"

In response to a question, I was arguing that the City's short-termism is so ill-informed and destabilising, The

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COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

By Christopher Warman
Property Correspondent

Eastern premises

The West German, and later a unified German, commercial property market is one that investors and developers would be well advised to watch in the 1990s. Jones Lang Wootton, property consultants, concludes in a report on the market in West Germany in general and Berlin in particular.

The West German market is thriving. Rental growth of 10 per cent in 1988 and 26 per cent in 1989 in the Frankfurt office market is likely to be repeated or bettered in 1990, J.L.W. partners Robert Orr and Michael Hodges say.

The report's timing could not be more appropriate — last weekend, at talks between the four Second World War allies, the two Germanies agreed that German unification should go ahead without delay.

The J.L.W. report says severe planning restraints and lack of supply are causing rents to rise in the face of strong demand. The demand emanates from several factors in the Frankfurt market: pressure is coming from banks and professional organizations wanting to take more office accommodation for staff dealing with trade in eastern Europe.

J.L.W. has five offices in West Germany and is appraising the opportunities for expansion into East Berlin, Leipzig and Dresden. Meanwhile, it is undertaking what is thought to be the first major valuation exercise by a western property consultancy, having been commissioned by an East German government department to value a

The merging of the East German property market with the West should lure investors

portfolio of 34 city-centre commercial buildings and 20 sites in East Germany.

The West German commercial property investment market went through much change in 1989. The foreign investment share virtually doubled as Swedish investors took their share to almost 34 per cent of all overseas investment.

This put Dutch investors into second place in the foreign investment league table for the first time in many years.

The authors of the report believe that because West Germany is a market free from inherent legal obstacles to foreign investment, the strong flow of capital into the country will continue unabated into the foreseeable future.

Lack of supply of good investments, strong demand, a stable currency and a healthy leasing scene have driven prime yields down in some cities to 4.5 per cent. Further downward pressure is expected.

The West German general election in December, bringing the possibility of a socialist coalition, is thought unlikely to have a great effect on market sentiment.

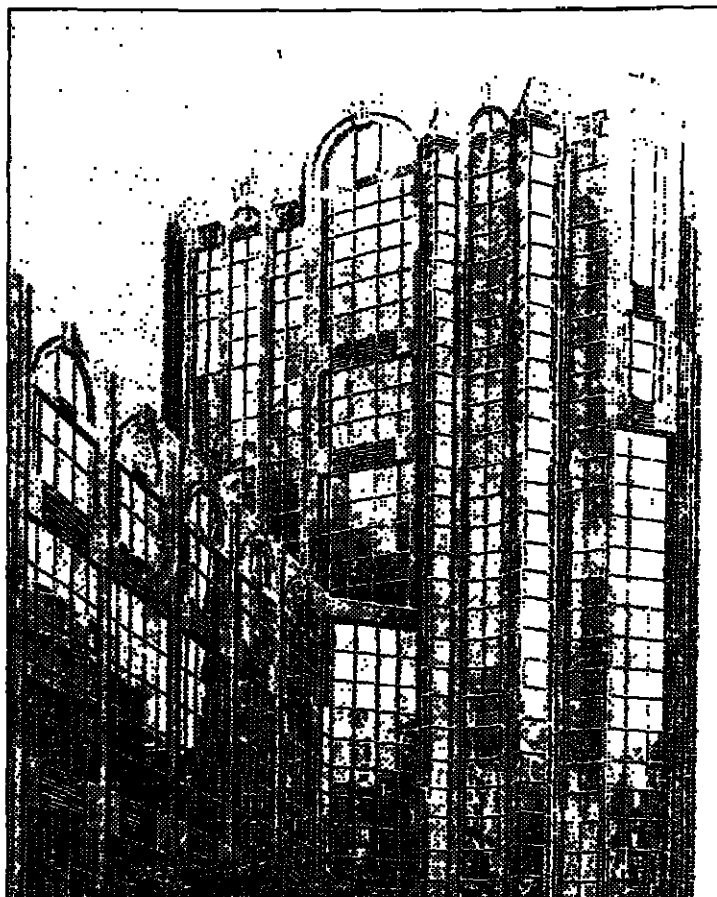
Looking at the "Berlin" effect, since the breaching of the Wall, J.L.W. argues that all main German cities should be winners in the short to medium term. While Bonn will inevitably lose prominence as Berlin moves towards the point where it will reassess capital city status, it is likely to retain a proportion of its ministerial responsibilities, but may be a long-term loser.

Cities such as Hamburg, Düsseldorf, Frankfurt, Stuttgart and Munich are likely to gain in importance in the medium term.

The future of the Berlin market is one that depends on a number of political decisions, the report says: "Fundamental town-planning guidelines will be necessary for a united Berlin, and legal issues, not least of which is the question of ownership in East Germany, will need to be resolved before Berlin becomes a fully fledged investment market capable of attracting substantial long-term project funding."

"What is clear is that the will of the people and market forces will drive the market to very different heights very quickly."

To illustrate growing interest in Germany, J.L.W. has announced new deals. Banque Paribas European Property Fund has acquired a second office investment in Frankfurt in its policy of expanding its investment in the country, and Irish Life Assurance has acquired its first property investment in Düsseldorf after a board decision to invest about DM30 million a year in West German real estate.



Work has begun on Colmore Gate, Birmingham, a development designed to form a gateway to the city's financial and professional quarter opposite Snow Hill station at the head of Colmore Row. The agent, Chesterton, believes the substantial investment in the city-centre by the developers, the Church Commissioners, highlights the investment community's confidence in Birmingham as a leading European business centre. The scheme, designed by Birmingham's Seymour Harris Partnership, includes 165,000 sq ft of office space around an atrium, and eight retail units. Alfred McAlpine Construction has won the £29 million building contract. Due for completion next year, the "environmentally friendly" development is expected to be one of the first buildings to qualify for the new green building certificate being launched by the Building Research Establishment.

Doubts keep the London rents down

OFFICE RENTS in London are still being pegged back by the uncertainty of the economy, although total occupancy costs have risen because of rate increases introduced last month, Weatherall Green & Smith, reports in an international survey of rents.

In London, the West End is holding its edge over the City despite the fact that rents have fallen back to their level of £65 a sq ft a year ago. In the City top rents have dropped from £65 a sq ft to £62.50 a sq ft. Total occupancy costs are now virtually the same at £89 a sq ft, with the City marginally more expensive.

Greg Cooke, partner responsible for the survey, comments

that the present economic situation, combined with high inflation, the uncertainty about the effects of the rating reform and the increase of supply of new space is holding back rent rises.

He says: "Companies are deferring moves until there has been a significant adjustment in interest rates, which is unlikely during the next 12 months."

Elsewhere, rents have continued to rise in Tokyo, Frankfurt and Paris, but remain static in New York. In Tokyo, the fall in the yen has meant that occupancy costs in sterling terms have actually dropped, although it remains the most expensive office location in the world.

IN THE MARKET

■ Rosewood, an American hotel group, has been awarded the management contract for the hotel planned on the site of St George's hospital at Hyde Park Corner, London SW1. Richard Ellis, managers of the developers, announces. Rosewood Hotel Group has created some of the most luxurious hotels in the US.

The historic hospital is being restored to create a new luxury hotel, which is scheduled to open in summer 1991, but as yet has no name. The site, owned by Goodwill Nominees, will also include a separate newly constructed 140,000 sq ft office building.

■ Balfour Beatty Developments Ltd has been given consent by Hammersmith and Fulham Borough Council for the

£350 million White City Centre scheme at Shepherd's Bush, west London. The 1.35 million sq ft project will include one of the biggest shopping centres in London, as well as leisure, office, residential and light industrial uses on 37 acres of semi-derelict land.

Work should begin in 1991 and generate 3,500 jobs on completion.

■ Royal Windsor and Eton's Grade II listed Riverside railway station, built in 1851 for Queen Victoria and Prince Albert by Sir William Tite, architect for the Royal Exchange, is to be restored as part of a development scheme by London & Edinburgh Trust with British Rail Property Board. The scheme will include a 25,000 sq ft office building adjoining the station.

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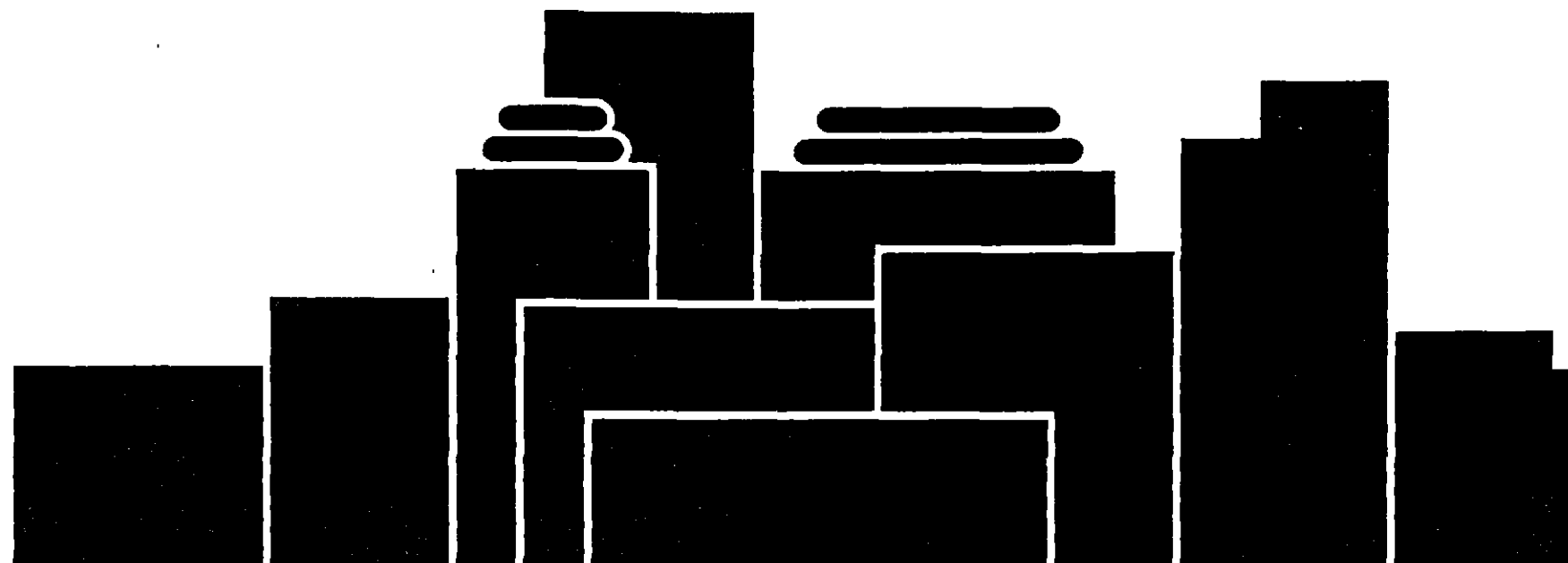
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Ref JPB

VIGERS

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98 GREAT NORTH ROAD N2

(Opposite The Bishops Avenue)

Superb new office building 6,375 sq ft, to let as a whole or in two suites.

- 3,018 sq. ft. and 3,357 sq. ft.
- Full air conditioning
- Full access flooring
- Lighting & carpeting
- 15 parking spaces
- Passenger lift
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OFFICE OR

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Approx 700 sq ft, detached, newly refurbished.

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OPPORTUNITY

147 acres building land among rolling countryside. Outline planning for 300 villas with sports & commercial facilities.

28,000,000.

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SUPERIOR SERVICED OFFICE

ACCOMMODATION IN THE CITY OF LONDON

From a single desk study to a suite, 3 months to 3 years. Fully furnished, 2 mins Bank underground.

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THE THROGMORTON

BUSINESS CENTRE

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FOR SALE

20,000 to 30,000 sq ft of

workshops with 20 ton overhead

gentry crane adjoining M74

motorway on the south side of

Glasgow. £15 per sq ft.

Tel (041) 647 9591.

BEDFORD ROW

WC1

Attractive 2nd floor office, extending to 800 sq ft available immediately. Spacious light and airy rooms with

interconnecting rooms. 5 year lease remaining, current rent £25,000 p.a.

Please call 071-442 4440.

CITY FRINGE

E1

Walking distance

Lloyds. Modern open

plan floors to let on

short term, immed

occupancy. 500-3,700

sq ft.

071-247 6867.

GLASGOW

To let, factory space

available adjacent Glasgow

airport. 10,000 sq ft with

9,000 cubic ft cold

room, integral offices,

adjacent ground available

for development. May sell.

Reply to BOX N03

Continued on next page

IN THE MARKET

LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

SECRETARY/ADMINISTRATOR
Executive Search & Selection

West End

£15,000

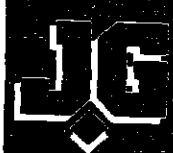
Part of a leading multi-country recruitment consultancy, we handle a range of management assignments for our portfolio of blue-chip clients. Working with two of our consultants, you will be involved at all stages of the recruitment process, from typing reports and candidate profiles to arranging interviews and liaising with clients.

To meet our high professional standards you must have first class wordprocessing, administration and communication skills, flexibility and resilience to pressure. In return we offer excellent working conditions, a lively environment and the rewards associated with a successful, people orientated business.

Please telephone Cheryl Huxtable in confidence on 071-629 8070 or write to her at Egor Executive Selection, 58 St. James's Street, London SW1A 1LD.

EGOR
EXECUTIVE
SELECTION

United Kingdom - Belgium - Denmark - France - Germany - Italy - Netherlands - Portugal - Spain - Sweden

JOYCE
GUINNESS

071 589 8807

Good
Foundations!
£14,500

International property scene near Baker St. is an attractive prospect for bright well presented PA. 25+ with audio kn WP and excellent command of English. Looking after two executives involved supportive role with admin lots of telephone work and important liaison with clients. Social functions need your glamorous hair. Fringe benefits are excellent and salary review after 6 months.

Part Time
Receptionist/
Telephoneist
£10,900

If your party occupied and need a steady string to your bow, working 12.30-7.30 in these charming SW1 offices will nicely boost your moral and your income. It's a Mittel board (will cross train) and you'll be meeting and greeting interesting people in a whirl of pleasant activity.

Jog for Joy
£12,000

A young sports enthusiast invited to team up with delightful group organising overseas events. They need strong backing and support from young secretary with shorthand typing audio and kn WP. French or German useful not essential. You'll be included in all the highlights and occasional travel abroad!

JOYCE
GUINNESS

071 589 8807

HIGH PROFILE CITY JOBS FOR YOUNG SECRETARIES
IN THEIR EARLY 20's OFFERING A FULFILLING AND REWARDING CAREER MOVE

Our prestigious client list, regarded by many to consist of the leading high profile City companies, has been established for 10 years. They acknowledge that much of their success is attributed to the high calibre of secretary they employ. The benefits you can expect are:-

- Mortgage benefit worth minimum £3,000
- Sound city training
- Internal promotion
- Young happy environment
- Interest free season ticket loan

- Christmas bonus
- Profit share
- Free BUPA
- Luncheon vouchers
- Sports and social club

If you are in your early 20's and would like further information or career advice please call Deborah Lee or Marianne Hope on 071-872 8887.

MACBLAIN NASH

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

Smooth Operations
£20,000 package

If appreciation and support from your boss are key requirements then the Director of Operations of a major British bank needs a secretary like you.

Operations, involving 200 + people in several large support areas, is vital to the smooth running of the bank. Personality is important - you should be conscientious, flexible and fun to work with. An interest in IT and knowledge of spreadsheets will keep your motivation high and City experience will help you appreciate the intricacies of treasury/banking support. Age 27-40. Skills 90/50/wp. A levels preferred.

Please telephone Caroline Smith on 071-588 3535.

Crone Corkill

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

PA/ADMINISTRATOR
FULHAM

Salary c.£14000 negotiable dependent on experience

You will find plenty of variety and a great team spirit within this fast growing management consultancy. This position will fully utilise your organisational/administrative skills. You will co-ordinate meetings and assist with financial control and PR, and be the total diplomat that senior executives need. With excellent presentation and WP skills - English and Maths O levels essential.

Send CV to Ian Lawton, Executive Information Solutions Ltd., Thames Wharf Studios, Rainville Road, London W6 9HA.

International PA...

£14,500 - Design

Trendy young Design consultancy involved in Corporate Identity, Graphic & Packaging Design, seeks an innovative, enthusiastic PA to work alongside two very likeable Directors. You need to be astute, flexible, able to cope with pressure and constantly changing priorities in this new position. Top communication skills essential as you are handling masses of international liaison with influential clients. Any European language a distinct advantage - they will be utilised. Stylish environment. Unbelievably friendly people - lots of social gatherings. Shorthand preferred. 60 wpm typing needed. Age 25+. Call 071-409 1232.

THE
WORK
SHOPRecruitment Consultants
to the Communications Industry

Magazine Publishing

£12,000 + super benefits

Great opportunity to join the extremely successful world of Publishing. Working on a world-famous women's interest/fashion magazine in their go-getting, young Advertising Department - made up of a team of 4 plus a very considerate Director. Great fun job with lots of client contact - so must be confident and articulate. Fantastic opportunity to learn all about Publishing and Advertising Sales. Definite prospects to move into a sales position if you show flair Skills (90/50). Age 21+. Fabulous benefits include bonus and free magazines. To know more, talk to us today on 071-409 1232.

THE
WORK
SHOPRecruitment Consultants
to the Communications IndustryThe biggest and the best in
PR

A first-class, outgoing, mega-efficient individual is urgently sought to assist a Board Director of one of the world's most successful PR agencies. Their progressive, impeccable reputation stems from continuing high standards and inexhaustible creativity. Their youngest Director needs a calm, confident self-starter to take a right hand role. Pressurised, front-line position - slightly chaotic at times - but with heaps of responsibility. Accurate 50 wpm typing essential. Salary £14,000 + benefits. If you love a fast pace, we'd love to tell you more about this superb opening. Talk with us today on 071-409 1232.

THE
WORK
SHOPRecruitment Consultants
to the Communications Industry071-584 3222
TM INTERNATIONAL
RECRUITMENTPERFECT PA
£18,000

Our client, an upmarket entrepreneurial company with beautiful offices in Knightsbridge and Mayfair are looking for that perfect PA for one of their senior directors. You need to be comfortable dealing with VIPs and be capable of organising extremely smart sporting events and client entertainment. Polished presentation and a good secretarial background and shorthand skills are essential. 50% secretarial work. Age 25+ Speeds 100/60wpm.

ADVERTISING/MARKETING
£14,000

Join the fast moving world of advertising and learn all about marketing. As PA to this Managing Director you will become involved with green issues, tackle some fund-raising and liaise on his behalf at all levels. Your personality, persistence and eye for detail will all be put to good use. West End location. Car parking available. Age 23+ Speeds 80/55 wpm.

POP CONCERTS/SPORTS
YOUNG SECRETARY
£10,000

This exciting company full of energetic and fun young people is looking for a dynamic junior secretary. You will be thrown in at the deep end, helping a small team to organise pop concerts and sports events. Experience not necessary but accurate typing at 45wpm is. West End location.

NEWLON HOUSING TRUST

TRUST
ADMINISTRATOR
£14,682 - £16,380

Newlon Housing Trust provides homes for letting in four East London Boroughs.

This post has been devised to provide the Director with secretarial support, administer the Trust's offices, to be Minute Secretary to the Management Committee, to assist the Director in the management of the Trust's legal obligations, and also to manage and support the reception and cleaning staff. The ideal candidate should be numerate and literate with two to three years relevant experience in a similar PA position, possess excellent communication and secretarial skills. You will need to be experienced in supervising staff and dealing with the public and individuals at Director and Committee Chair level.

CLOSING DATE: 31st May
Telephone: BEVERLEY JAMES for an application form and further information on: 081 986 4111

The Trust is committed to promoting equal opportunities in all areas of its operation. However, Trust offices are at present situated on 3 floors.

ART GALLERY
£13K

Join this prestigious Mayfair Gallery as PA/Secretary to the Managing Director. They specialise in the export movement and seek a very socially confident person to help run the gallery. Set up exhibitions, meet and greet VIP clients and further your interest in art. Attractive hours 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Good typing and rusty shorthand essential.

Please telephone 071 240 3511
2/3 Bedford Street,
Covent Garden WC2E 9HB

Elizabeth Hunt
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

Bilinguasec

CZECH £15,500 + Mgr Subs

PA with panache & good sec skills. New Dept in Int. Bank. Never a dull moment!

JAPANESE £13,000

Compensation shipping Co. Constant client liaison. Brush up on your Japanese & enjoy free lunch! PA position, no 9/4

HUNGARIAN £13,000

Int. Import/Export Co. Good sec. skills. PA position - real involvement!

CANTONESE £10,500 + Bens

Promotions Co. Accurate typing. Dynamic MDI Exc. Bens!

WEST END 493 6446 CITY 929 5373

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

"ALL PURPOSE" RECEPTIONIST/SECRETARY
WITH WORD PROCESSING AND DTP SKILLS

A small hyperactive Chartered Accountancy practice needs a replacement for Celia who is leaving to have a baby. Working from luxury offices in Central London, your job will include running the reception and organising a pressurised and workaholic boss. Excellent secretarial skills are required and a personable, energetic and outgoing personality. Previous experience in a financial environment would be an advantage.

Salary £14,000 negotiable, according to experience.

Please telephone 071 498 2177.

***THE RIGHT
MARKETING MIX***
£14,000

This exciting, very professional Co. are really young places and they need somebody with top of class and drive to help them on their way. Organising seminars and conferences, dealing with clients and old and new press releases are in general becoming very involved in the Marketing of the Co.

If you need a 2nd secretary, background, good communication skills and the will to get on and succeed in your career. Call Julie.

Susan Beck

RECRUITMENT 071-584 8242

RIVER VIEW
£13,000 + Perks

You will be based in luxurious offices overlooking the river, dealing with clients at home and abroad and in general making sure everything is running smoothly and efficiently. Your role will be that of an Office Manager and your duties will be varied and very interesting. This is a superb opportunity for the right person to move out of a secretarial position in style and into a more senior role. You will be well paid and become truly happy in your work. Call Julie.

Susan Beck

RECRUITMENT 071-584 8242

***PARSONS GREEN
P.A.***
£15,000

This small very lively Company co. based in Parsons Green requires a bright socially aware P.A. to work for the MD. Not only will your day be filled with everything from accounts and company accounts but also to use an accounting system i.e. Finance, the ideal candidate must have a great sense of humour as everyone is full of life, this position would either suit someone returning to work or a second job. This could also be a small amount of pressure. Call Beverly Now.

Susan Beck

RECRUITMENT 071-584 8242

***PARSONS GREEN
ACCOUNTS***
SALARY NEG...

If you are in the Parsons Green, Fulham area and have experience in bought & purchased ledger Party Co. as part of a small team, you will get thoroughly involved in two areas of the company. You will be working with Management Accounts and will be using an accounting system i.e. Finance, the ideal candidate must have a great sense of humour as everyone is full of life, this position would either suit someone returning to work or a second job. This could also be a small amount of pressure. Call Beverly Now.

Susan Beck

RECRUITMENT 071-584 8242

***EXHIBITION
ORGANISING -
ANTIQUES***
£11,500 neg + Perks

A Show Secretary is required to join the team of Exhibition Organisers. Working as part of a small team, you will get thoroughly involved in two areas of the company. You will be working with Management Accounts and will be using an accounting system i.e. Finance, the ideal candidate must have a great sense of humour as everyone is full of life, this position would either suit someone returning to work or a second job. This could also be a small amount of pressure. Call Beverly Now.

Susan Beck

RECRUITMENT 071-584 8242

FORMULA ONE
£13,000 + PERKS

Are you interested in the racing world? Then this could be for you! Working as PA to one of the directors of Formula One, you will provide the secretarial and administrative support for the production of major international sporting events. In addition to good "at home" secretarial skills, including shorthand and a good secretarial background and shorthand skills are essential. For more information, please call Sara.

Susan Beck

RECRUITMENT 071-584 8242

SUPERIOR
PEOPLE PLACES
£15,000-£16,000

NEW GREEN - Offices actually overlooking it. Here, as Exec Assistant to the Chief Executive, you'll play a key role in the start-up, as-going mainline and PR of a newly launched and very generously funded charitable foundation with prestigious Trustees. To fit, you need 100/60 speeds (minutes of meetings etc), WP and at least five years' experience in senior positions. Essential attributes: well spoken, well presented, 30+ and mature.

ST JAMES'S. We've been asked to find an Executive Secretary/Administrator for the M.D. of a subsidiary of a US multinational, operating on the financial services side. It's office admin, PR, client liaison. You need a good five years' experience - all skills, kn. WP - to get a look-in here. German useful, not essential. Very superior benefits.

ST JAMES'S AGAIN. Management Consultancy is the business. Secretary/PA to a Senior Director is the job - and a very interesting one, too. Rusty shorthand OK, as long as you're good on the WP. Conversational French an advantage. Age 24+.

Choose your place, then ring ours.

35 Piccadilly, London W1V 9PB. Telephone 071 734-7282

MARY OVERTON

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

Two working Directors (1m/1f) of lively business to business publishing house specialising in retailing, the food industry and property require an able intelligent secretary. Based in new offices close to Piccadilly (and the Tate Gallery) the candidate will deal with correspondence for both directors (Apple Macintosh word processing) and will also be involved in considerable quantities of telephone research and will assist with editorial overload on both magazines and directories as required.

A diplomatic personality and accurate shorthand/typing are essential. A competitive salary is offered. Please apply in writing in the first instance to: Sharon Britton Newman Books Ltd 32 Vauxhall Bridge Road London SW1V 2SS NO AGENCIES PLEASE

newman books
Business Publishing
32 Vauxhall Bridge Road, London SW1V 2SS

SECRETARY P/A
DEPARTMENT OF
MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

Applications are invited from people with good organisational ability and a mature attitude to work for the post of Private Secretary to the Head of the Mechanical Engineering Department at King's College London.

The post combines the provision of full secretarial services to the Head of Department with the role of departmental secretary for which part time assistance will be provided. Candidates will be expected to provide good typing and shorthand skills, be conversant with the operation of word processors and be confident in dealing with College staff at all levels.

Salary within the range (Grade 5) £12,353 - £13,879 per annum inclusive of London Allowance, 4 weeks' annual holiday plus extra days at Christmas and Easter.

Applications in writing, with full C.V., including the names and addresses of two referees to: The Personnel Office, King's College London, Strand, London, W6R 2LS. Closing date 31st May 1990.

ADVERTISING
SECRETARY
WITH A DIFFERENCE!

We are a top W1 Advertising Agency, seeking a top Advertising Secretary. Working in a friendly, often frantic Account Group, you will need to have a number of qualities including:

- * A terrific sense of humour!
- * The ability to stay calm when the going gets tough!
- * An enthusiastic and flexible approach to work!

If you possess all these and have excellent organisational skills and accurate typing of 60 wpm we'd certainly like to talk to you. The environment is lively yet challenging and we offer a salary of c. £11,000 plus overtime.

Contact:
LIZ DAVIES
Saatchi & Saatchi Advertising Ltd
071-636 5060
(No agencies please)

SECRETARY

required to support Sales Manager and assist MD of small but lively audio/visual production company in Fulham. Mostly office based but possibility of some travel (driving licence an advantage). We are looking for someone early to mid 20's with good shorthand/typing skills, who is confident when dealing with potential clients in person and on the telephone and who has the initiative to act and handle own correspondence in Sales Manager's absence. Salary c£12,000. Benefits include: 5 weeks holiday, free medical insurance and contributory pension scheme. Please write, enclosing CV to:

Jacquelyn Best
Communications Unlimited
54 Langdon Street
London SW6 6NX
(no agencies please)

MEDIA PLAYERS

Are you looking for an interesting media secretarial position offering involvement? We currently have lots of opportunities to choose from in publishing, PR, design, TV, etc. If you are a junior secretary, a top PA, 2nd jobber, respondent with experience, or just wanting a change in direction we want to hear from you now! Salaries range from £8 - 14k. Interests? Then why not call us for an informal chat.

Melanie Blackall or Gill Nial on 071-631 1541.

BERKELEY
APPOINTMENTS.

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS
PARNMENT HOUSE 104 - 108
OXFORD STREET LONDON W1N 9FA

Secretaries -
bring your
media career
into focus

Tired of being an extra? Rather play a leading part? Then zoom in on the capital's longest-running, most experienced media placement specialists. If you would like to develop your existing media role, or are looking for your first big break - call The Grosvenor Bureau. We offer secretaries in top jobs in Television, Film, Publishing, Public Relations and The Arts. In this business, it's who you know that counts. Get to know us on 071-499 6586.

The GROSVENOR
Bureau

MEDIA CAREERS
£9,500-13,500

As a major force in Media Recruitment Christopher Keats recruits for most of the

FILM, TV,
ADVERTISING, PR,
MAGAZINE & BOOK

companies in Central and Greater London. If you are seeking a media career and are prepared to use your secretarial skills in return for total involvement, responsibility and prospects, call one of our Specialist Consultants on:

071-379 4164 or 379 0344
until 8pm

A CHALLENGE?
£18,000

As PA to the MD of this successful Property Co., your role will be high powered and varied. You should have Director level experience, be used to responsibility and using your initiative. Be well presented and spoken with excellent communication skills. This is an excellent opportunity for involvement and job satisfaction. Skills: 90/55 Age: 25 - 35

HANOVER
SQUARE
071-408 1461

ANGELA MORTIMER

DIRECTORS' PA
£17,500

International share dealing operation needs executive level sec to undertake full PA support role. Salary incl. bonus, also private medical, life ass. and NCPs offered. Details 071-408 1220 Seeve Mills recruitment.

£14,500
A-level/Grad
Executive Secretary

Regions Park, International Property Co. Young, smart, outgoing person to assist two chartered surveyors in their early careers. Involvement with many social/business functions. Please send CV to: TED Agt 071 736 9857

AUDIO
SECRETARY -
EC3

6.30 - 5pm. Superb package. £14,500. Seeve Mills recruitment.

Judy Cross
Agency 0245
261969

Secretary/Publicity
Assistant

We are a National independent firm of Chartered Surveyors seeking a bright secretary/PA to work in our small, expanding West End Office. We deal with all aspects of property and need an intelligent, capable person to help run the office, handle secretarial work for our residential department, and help our publicity manager with publicity matters as well as secretarial duties. Salary in the region of £14,800. Please send CV to: Mary Watson, Chartered Surveyors, 12a St. George Street, London W1R 9JH.

Continued on next page

LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

SEC/PA - INTERIOR DESIGN
to £19,000 at 30 +

Busy Chief Executive seeks an efficient personal assistant with top communication skills to co-ordinate his hectic business and personal life! It's a young, creative atmosphere where you will be involved with the overall planning, marketing and promotion of the company. Skills of 100/60 wpm required.

HODGE
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS
071-629 8863

PERSONAL SECRETARY
to £17,000

Leading, professional advertising agency currently seeks an efficient personal secretary to assist a senior board director. Responsible for the smooth running of his office, you will co-ordinate a busy schedule of meetings and social engagements and liaise at all levels. Preferred age: 28-35, skills of 90/60 wpm required.

HODGE
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS
071-629 8863

PA to Vice President

£20,000 - Slough

Our client embodies American entrepreneurial success. A major multi-national with an extremely successful UK presence, their European Vice-President now seeks an exceptionally motivated, like-minded, professional PA to assist him in a role which is as interesting as it is diverse. Volume senior level contact with influential VIP clients; co-ordinating extensive overseas travel (you travel with him on occasion); overseeing a hectic diary; constant liaison with both Eastern and Western Europe. A good command of German and/or French advantageous. Impeccable skills (90/50) taken as read. First-class 'listening' management. Work hard, play hard environment. Age 28+. Call 071-493 5787.

GORDON-YATES

Recruitment Consultants

Computer literate PA

circa £17,000

Our client is a recently established Computer consultancy already expanding in a major way. A dynamic MD is at the helm of this success story and he currently seeks a Graduate calibre PA to assist him. An ex-Management Consultant himself, his standards are high - as his PA your role will be wide-ranging, incorporating recruitment and helping to research new markets, procedures and the ability to take early responsibility are key assets. You are assertive, an excellent forwarder and committed to a long-term career. Shorthand desirable, 55 wpm typing essential. Languages useful. Age to 40. Call 071-493 5787.

GORDON-YATES

Recruitment Consultants

RECEPTIONIST

£14,000

A chance to make your mark with this prestigious design company. Currently undergoing rapid expansion and about to move into absolutely beautiful offices in the West End. You will cope with a busy switchboard, book orders and taxis, keep an eye on the chauffeur, look after the meeting room, greet clients and generally be an incredibly charming and totally indispensable. Previous experience plus the ability to cope under pressure essential.

071-497 8003

SUSAN DOUGHTY

RECRUITMENT

Suite 314, Bedford Chambers, North Piazza, Covent Garden, London WC2

PRIVATE PA

£16,600

A first class PA with excellent interpersonal skills and an unflappable manner needed by charming gentleman who heads a huge business empire in Kensington. Apart from using your excellent shorthand and typing skills, you will organise meetings with members of the Cabinet, arrange travel, keep an eye on his home when he is away and look after his various other properties in the UK. Willingness to work occasionally for one other senior member of staff essential.

071-497 8003

SUSAN DOUGHTY

RECRUITMENT

Suite 314, Bedford Chambers, North Piazza, Covent Garden, London WC2



Executive Officer

£13,876-£15,963

This is a key post within the Academic Registrar's Office, which is responsible for all academic administration for the University.

As office manager, you will be responsible for the supervision and training of four secretarial staff and for management of the office's IT systems in consultation with staff from the University's Computer Unit. You will act as Personal assistant to the Deputy Academic Registrar, administering a number of senior level committees including procedures for recruitment of academic staff, and will be responsible for administrative matters relating to external examinations.

Previous office/secretarial management experience is essential, together with good WP skills and an understanding of IT applications within an office environment. You will need excellent organisational skills and, as you will be dealing with a wide range of people from both inside and outside the University, good communication skills will also be necessary. Benefits include a generous holiday allowance, season ticket loan scheme and excellent sports and social facilities. Please quote ref no: TCC/EO.

Further details are available from Mrs C Rouschmeyer, Personnel Officer, City University, Northampton Square, London EC1V 0HB or telephone 071-250 1107 (24hr answerphone). Closing date: 25th May 1990. We are an Equal Opportunities Employer.

CJES

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS
3 London Wall Buildings,
London Wall, London EC2M 5PU
Tel: 01-638 8867 or 01-638 2588
Telex No. 887374 Fax No. 01-256 2503

EXECUTIVE P.A./ADMINISTRATOR
£17,000-£21,000 NEGOTIABLE
NATURAL RESOURCES COMPANY
Our client, an international consortium with substantial funding, seeks an Executive P.A. Administrator for their new U.K. venture. The successful applicant will have worked at management level, possess sound bookkeeping, typing and word processing skills and be familiar with setting up new systems. Acting as right arm to the Chief Executive you will be providing full secretarial and administrative support deputising in his frequent absence and generally acting asynch pin for the company. There is a considerable administrative content and duties will include correspondence, diaries, co-ordinating meetings, banking, bookkeeping, travel arrangements and looking after overseas visitors. First rate organisational skills are vital as is the ability to work under pressure, assess priorities and have an adaptable, flexible attitude. Initial remuneration negotiable £17,000-£21,000 plus pension and private health cover in due course. Applications in strict confidence under reference EPA/787/T to the Managing Director.

CAMPBELL-JOHNSTON EXECUTIVE SECRETARIES LIMITED (RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS),
3 LONDON WALL BUILDINGS, LONDON WALL, LONDON EC2M 5PU (AND KNIGHTSBRIDGE OFFICE), TELEPHONE 01-638 8867 OR 01-638 2588, TELEX: 887374, FAX: 01-256 2503



SECRETARY - HEAD OF SKY MOVIES

We require a secretary with impeccable secretarial skills, (shorthand 100 wpm and typing - 60 wpm) to work for Head of Sky Movies.

The movie channel is already the most watched satellite delivered film channel in Europe.

The successful candidate will be hardworking, have lots of initiative and be very committed. The work is varied and interesting including liaison work, minuting meetings, organising travel and all the normal secretarial duties.

Company benefits include a competitive salary, BUPA coverage, contributory pension scheme and 5 weeks' holiday per annum.

If you wish to be considered for this position please write with full c.v., daytime 'phone no. and current salary to:-

Lois Stott, Personnel Officer, Sky Television PLC, 6 Centenary Business Park, Grant Way, Isleworth, Middlesex TW7 5QD or please ring 071-782 3564 for an application.

INTERNATIONAL MANAGEMENT
CONSULTANCY REQUIRES
SECRETARY/ADMIN PA
TO VICE PRESIDENT

Excellent secretary required to join our support staff to work for Vice President in charge of co-ordinating our business school and graduate recruitment programme. Candidates should be aged between 25 and 37. Extremely smartly dressed and with excellent secretarial (inc. audio) and organisational skills. We are looking for someone who is quietly efficient and conscientious, an excellent communicator and a hard worker. Although this is not a 'career' position, we think this job would suit someone looking for more than a traditional secretarial role but who is happy fulfilling the traditional secretarial expectations.

Please Fax your details or send CV with application to:

Ms. Stephanie Simden
The MAC Group (UK) Ltd
22 Grafton Street, London W1X 3LD
Fax: 071-491 7179

**FRIENDLY WEST
END ARCHITECTS**
are looking for a
SECRETARY
for w.p. and other
office duties.
£10.5k - £11k aae
Ring 071-224 2240

RECEPTIONIST
FOR HIGHLY
PRESTIGIOUS
COMPANY
£14,500+

No switchboard or typing duties are required, but immaculate presentation and social skills are a must. The Company, a well known and highly prestigious City firm, needs a "classic" receptionist in their mid twenties, with receptionist experience of similar professional Companies. Above average fringe benefits are on offer to the right person.

Bernadette de Bond Street
35 New Bond Street, London W1Y 0ND
071-629 1204
Fax: 071-629 0754
Recruitment Consultants

INSTITUTE OF OPHTHALMOLOGY
(University of London)
Judd Street, London WC1H 9QS
Tel: 071-387 9621PERSONAL ASSISTANT TO
HEAD OF DEPARTMENT OF
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ANTIQUES & COLLECTABLES

by Huon Mallalieu

Burning desire for all things splendid

Tom Burn, who died in 1985, collected English pottery and porcelain. About 600 of his items are up for auction

How pleasant to be 21 and to be given a Rolls-Royce. Better still to receive not just a garage for the car, but a lovely Elizabethan manor house to go with it.

How pleasant, in short, to have been Tom Burn, of Rous Leach Court, Worcester, who died aged 77 in 1985. In 1946 he had become the major shareholder in the family tailoring businesses and, armed with knowledge and a great deal of money, he set about the equally serious business of furnishing his house.

The post-war years were glorious for such a collector, especially one who made good friends with the dealers, curators and authors who could help him. There was a lot available, few people were interested and prices were low.

At his death, the house, about five-and-a-half miles from Alcester in a pretty stretch of country between the Piddle and the Whiston brooks, and its splendid collections, most notably of oak furniture and English pottery, were left to two of his friends, Monica Houghton and James Newman.

In July 1986 Sotheby's held a four-day sale, which began with what was billed as the finest private collection of pottery to be dispersed since the war. The house itself, which would have been a Victorian genre painter's dream, was sold for £275,000 guide price, and it seems the collection was greater and more important than previously claimed. A further 600 items of mainly English pottery and porcelain are to be auctioned on May 29 and 30, this time by Christie's.

Tom Burn collected with love and enthusiasm — each morning he would bid "Good morning, young ladies" to a pair of 18th-century enamel portraits of the beautiful Gunning sisters — so it is likely that the auctioneers are understating the case when they say that his treasures will "appeal to collectors on grounds of academic interest and scope". One of the particular features of the 1986 sale was the number of items inscribed or dated or both, and the same is true this time. Then there were six naïve Staffordshire slipware dishes on offer,



Above: Malkin's press-moulded clock-face dish may bring up to £35,000. Below: Ralph Simpson's Staffordshire slipware charger. Right: An English delftware jug with portraits of Charles II and his bride Catherine of Bragança dated 1662 is expected to make up to £50,000



including two or perhaps three by Thomas Toft, one by John Wright, and one by John Simpson; this time the four dishes on offer are a Ralph Toft, a Ralph Simpson "Cat and Mouse" dish, a John Wright and a Samuel Malkin. The last is expected to be the most expensive, with an estimate of between £25,000 to £35,000. The Malkin is decorated as a clock-face, and cryptically dated by the figure 17 in the day aperture and the hands pointing to noon.

There are also a number of 17th-century English delftware wine bottles and jugs, of which a jug with portraits of Charles II and his bride Catherine of Bragança dated 1662 is expected to make up to £50,000, and a Southwark wine bottle dated 1628 could make up to £20,000.

There is an 18th-century punch bowl (£10,000 to £15,000) with the entirely right-headed inscription: "Since Drinking Has Power To Give Us Relief Come Fill Up The Bowl & A Fox On All Grief. If That Won't Do, We'll Have Such Another. & So We'll Proceed".

From One Bowl To Another. Tom Burn was evidently a lover of animals, at least in ceramic form, and there is an amusing menagerie of feline among the lots. I suppose that an eccentric salt-glaze teapot of about 1760 principally modelled as a cat must be included under this heading, since the barrel on which the plump dog is seated has a camel-like neck and head forming the spout. One wonders whether tea



was indeed the intended beverage (£3,500-£5,000). A salt-glaze owl of about 1750 (£10,000-£15,000) is splendidly modelled except for the claws, which seem rather feeble, otherwise the still more lively creamware squirrel (£4,000-£6,000), would no doubt have lost its tail.

There are many human figures in the porcelain section, and among the best Bow pieces is a pair in white of the 18th-century comedians Kinty

ON SALE, ON SHOW

Selected events from today to June 9. Auctions usually at 11am unless otherwise stated — but check before making a special journey:

May 9, 10.30am, 2pm: Sale of 50 large case clocks and other timepieces. Sotheby's, Sussex (0403 783833). May 9-18: Watercolours of the Lake District. Moss Galleries, 238 Brompton Road, London SW13 (071 225 3489). May 10, Noon: Book and document sale. Lawrence, Crewkerne, Somerset (0460 73041). May 10-26: Exhibition of prints of North American Indians. Schuster Gallery, Maddox Street, W1, (071 491 2208).

May 11-13: Antique Dealers' Fair of Wales, Margam Castle, Swansea (0937 823029). May 12-19: Buxton Antiques Fair, Pavilion Gardens, Buxton, (04868 22562).

May 15-25: Exhibition of watercolours by Hester Frood. Fry Gallery at 47 Great Russell Street, WC1, (071 935 3296).

May 16, 10.15am: Mixed antiques sale. Western Sale, 10742 room, Sheffield (0114 58294). May 16, 10.30am: Large sale of mixed antiques. Boardman, Town Hall, Clare, Suffolk, (0440 730414). May 16, 10.30am: Sale of paintings and watercolours. Beattie's, Rainbow, Torquay, (0803 296277). May 16, 7pm: Sale of netsuke, inro and pipecases. Christie's King Street, SW1, (071 839 9060).

May 17, 10.30am: Ceramics and furniture sale. Hy. Dorchester, Dorset, (0305 265080). May 17: Old Master sale. Sotheby's, Chester, (0244 315531). May 17, 5.30pm and May 18 10.30am and 2pm: Maritime sale. Christie's S. Kensington at the Commonwealth Institute.

May 17-19: Bucks & Berks Antiques Fair, Farnham, Surrey, (0743 873674). May 18-20: Bristol & West of England Antiques Fair, Exhibition Centre, Bristol, (0364 52182).

May 24 6pm: Sale of topographical pictures. Christie's S. Kensington, (071 581 7611). May 24, 6pm: Garden and flower painting sale. Bonhams, Montpelier Street, SW7, (071 584 9161).

May 27-28: Maps & Prints Fair, Harrodian Club, Lonsdale Road, SW13, (081 946 5593). May 29 and 30: Sale of the Rous Leach collection of British ceramics. Christie's King Street.

May 30 and 31: Garden statuary sale. Sotheby's Sussex, (0937 823029). May 30-June 21: Drawings and prints by David Jones and Eric Gill. Austin/Desmond, 15a Bloomsbury Square, WC1, (071 242 4443). May 30-June 30: "The Pen & the Sword" exhibition. W. R. Harvey, Old Bond Street, W1, (071 499 8385). May 31-June 10: Olympia Fine Art & Antiques Fair (071 370 8234).

June 1, 10.30am: Sale of sporting books & prints. Christie's S. Kensington, (071 581 7611). June 5, 10.30am: Sale of British folk art and furniture. Sotheby's Sussex. June 6-July 20: Victorian paintings and sculpture. Agnew, Old Bond Street, W1, (071 629 1776). June 10-12: New discoveries at the Helm Gallery, Jermyn Street, SW1, (071 493 0688).

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TEMPTING TIMES

Continued From Previous Page

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Reforms must be given time to settle

Cowdrey plays his part to the full

By Simon Wilde

By Alan Lee
Cricket Correspondent

ENGLISH cricket's enthusiasm for reform has been found wanting more than once in the past year. Now, a week into May, we are seeing it all over again. The game, we are told, has gone mad because the batsmen are making too many runs.

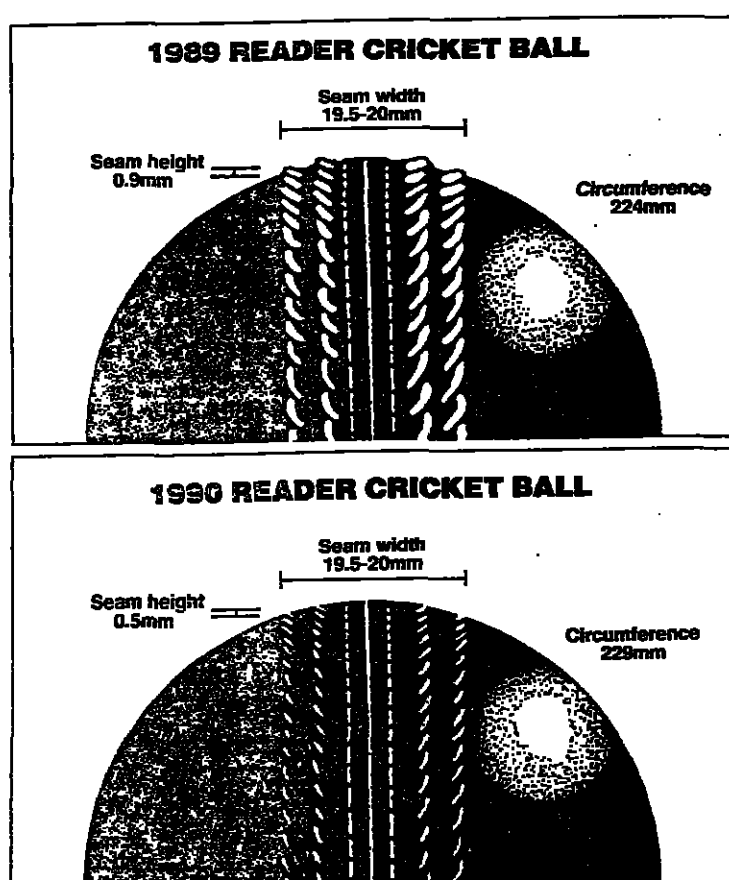
There have, so far, been only two rounds of championship games. The second of them produced two triple hundreds, three double hundreds and an array of run records. As a result, vocal opinion has it that pitches are too bland and the ball is too soft and seamless.

Now, given the fact that some of this may have a foundation of truth, is it not a premature over-reaction indicative of some alarmingly short memories? To put it in perspective, less than a year ago the compelling issue was bowlers taking too many cheap wickets because the pitches and balls were too helpful.

The game was being abused by counties bent on achieving a result at the expense of playing standards. Something, it was widely agreed, needed to be done. Something has been done, but on all of a fortnight's evidence, there are those willing to condemn the changes out of hand.

Last year, the 15-strand seam on the controversial Reader ball stood so proud from the leather that, when used on the prevalent green, under-prepared pitches, it allowed excessive sideways movement. That ball, and those pitches, have been outlawed for all county games by the Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB). The 1990 ball has only nine-strand seams which are flush with the surface. The edict on pitches is that they must be made to last.

It is not to the liking of the seam bowlers' union, nor of those who



think cricket is worth watching only when wickets are tumbling; what it is, of course, is an attempt to raise standards.

The four-day games which concluded on Bank Holiday Monday were remarkable. At least, three of them were. The matches at the Oval, Cardiff and Chelmsford yielded 4.610 runs at an average of 82 runs per wicket, more than three times the figure for the four other games.

All three were drawn, although at

least in the case of the Oval, this reflected bloody-minded captaincy which Lancashire, as championship aspirants, may live to regret. Scoring 863 might have animated the statisticians and cocked a snook at Surrey for prolonging their own innings, but in the context of chasing honours it was pure folly.

Had they declared behind, inviting Surrey to set a target, Lancashire were the only likely winners.

FIRST-CLASS HUNDREDS

A total of 41 hundreds has been made in 23 first-class matches so far this season, 32 in the 15 Britannic Assurance county championship matches. In 1989 a total of 248 hundreds was scored in 226 matches, 199 in 187 championship matches.

County	Player	Score	Match
Derbyshire	C J Adams	111	vs Lancashire
Essex	N A Foster	107	vs Lancashire
	C A Gough	107	vs Lancashire
Glamorgan	P J Prichard	215	vs Lancashire
	G C Holmes	125	vs Somerset
Hampshire	H Morris	103	vs Oxford Univ
	V A Richards	102	vs Lancashire
	K D James	104	vs Kent
	C J Miles	102	vs Essex
	C L Smith	148	vs Oxford Univ
	V P Tilly	107	vs Kent
		112	vs Surrey
Kent	M R Benson	109	vs Sussex
Lancashire	C S Cowdrey	107	vs Hampshire
	M A Atherton	191	vs Surrey
	N Farnham	366	vs Surrey
	N D Mendis	104	vs Surrey
Lancashire	N S Brown	104	vs Essex
	C L Lewis	189	vs Essex
	R R Brown	104	vs Essex
	D L Haynes	116	vs Essex
Northamptonshire	M R Ramprakash	118	vs Cambridge Univ
	A Rodham	208	vs Yorkshire
	A Lamb	235	vs Yorkshire
Nottinghamshire	A L Penberthy	101	vs Cambridge Univ
	B C Broad	180	vs Derbyshire
Somerset	N D Burns	108	vs Gloucestershire
	S J Cook	313	vs Gloucestershire
	A W Hirst	110	vs Gloucestershire
	C J Taverne	120	vs Gloucestershire
Surrey	P W G Parker	100	vs Surrey
Sussex	Asif Din	107	vs Kent
Warwickshire	T M Moody	147	vs Cambridge Univ
Worcestershire	D A Reeve	108	vs Cambridge Univ
	D B D'Oliveira	185	vs Lancashire
	G A Hick	108	vs Lancashire
	R Angwirth	117	vs Nottinghamshire
	P A Nield	122	vs Nottinghamshire

(m) maiden hundred (c) career best
No hundreds have yet been scored by players from Gloucestershire, Yorkshire, Cambridge University or Oxford University
© Compiled by Richard Lockwood

Tactically, then, maybe some counties must adjust to the needs of longer games on better pitches. This goes deeper than judging declarations. It embraces the pace of batting and, most important, the quality of bowling.

It is not enough, as too often it has been in recent seasons, to rotate five or six seam bowlers who knew that the combination of a thick-seamed ball and a receptive pitch would camouflage their shortcomings in skill and confound all the bats-

men's attempts to play correctly. In the conditions which are supposed to prevail now, the quicker bowlers will achieve little unless they are able to call upon genuine speed or controlled swing. The reign of the gently paced seamer, roughish in county cricket but utterly useless on better Test pitches, should be over.

Best of all is the opportunity for spin bowling. On a four-day pitch at Folkestone on Monday, Richard Davis, of Kent, took six

for 59 to win the game. Peter Such took wickets for Essex at Chelmsford. Both are promising specialists whose careers have been retarded by the obsession with gaining results through seam bowling on poor pitches.

Of course, the new regulations are not yet perfect. There are grounds for believing that they go too far. Complaints about the new ball extend beyond the bowlers' moon that they must now work harder to a general criticism, shared by batsmen, that it is often going soft very fast. This, however, is an error of design, not legislation.

Pitches need only be even, not lifeless. They would also benefit from being open to the elements for championship matches, so long as the bowlers' run-ups were also uncovered. The ball needs to be just a ball, which means neither a hard grenade nor a sponge cake. Captains need to react to circumstances rather than prejudices. Bowlers, as Ian Greg, one of the week's biggest run scorers, points out, must learn how to bowl when things are not in their favour.

When all these provisos are met, we will have a county game which is not unbalanced towards either bat or ball. It does, however, take a little more than a fortnight to get the mixture right.

Certainly, the TCCB is far from discouraged. Indeed, its cricket secretary, Tim Lamb, said yesterday: "We are seeing exactly the things we'd hoped for. People are saying it has made life too easy for the batsmen but we approached it from the other angle and wanted to make life harder for the bowlers. I believe we are seeing the fruits of that already, but it is wholly ridiculous to make any judgements on two weeks of cricket."

Leading article, page 15
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Hobbling Haynes guides Middlesex home in a run feast

By John Woodcock

HOVE (Middlesex won toss): Scores tied, Middlesex (2pts) beat Sussex on faster scoring rate over first 30 overs. MIDDLESEX won a capital Benson and Hedges match yesterday with literally nothing to spare. At the finish, the scores were exactly level—282 for six apiece—but Middlesex prevailed because they were ahead after 30 overs, 125 for two as against 99 for three.

Setting such a target, Sussex must have fancied their chances; but it was the plumpest of pitches, and Desmond Haynes is in prime form. It was he, with his fifth hundred in his last nine innings, who saw Middlesex home.

Gatting stayed with him for a while, as did Ramprakash. When Ramprakash was out, Middlesex needed 73 in 10 overs. But, in the 33rd over, Haynes was caught on the square leg boundary. Finally, it was eight to make off the last over, bowled by Lenham, with Downton and Embury together. The first five balls all produced a single, the sixth and last, the final frantic two, with Embury hurling himself for the line to beat Parker's throw from deep mid-off.

Having seen a sea fret coming up the Avenue, Gatting asked Sussex to bat. In the event, the first turned back;

Moore was given an immediate life at the wicket, off a gentle skier, and if by lunch (Sussex 127 for three after 37 overs) there was no guarantee of such a high-scoring match, it was already very much a day for batting. Splendidly as the Wells brothers were to play in the afternoon, Sussex owed quite as much to Moores, who was responsible for giving them a start. With the bottom hand in firm control, he had scored 76 out of 98 when he was third out in the thirtieth over, bowled by Haynes.

After lunch, Sussex flew along. Speight struck the early blows, but it was the driving of Colin Wells which finally made the difference between a good Sussex score and a very good one. It was tremendous stuff. Cowans was taken for 21 in an over, and the catch which Butcher took off the last ball of the innings, running at full tilt along the mid-wicket boundary, brought a notable piece of batting to a spectacular conclusion. In 18 overs after lunch, Sussex had added 155 runs.

For Middlesex, Haynes took over where Colin Wells had left off, playing with the confidence of someone who is finding it difficult to get out. After Roseberry had gone to a good, sharp slip catch in the fourth over, Haynes and Gatting added 96. They

looked to be winning the match much as they pleased until Gatting went to hit Hansford over his head and sent a steeper to extra cover instead.

Haynes had been slowed down a little by now by the need for a runner. He had damaged a knee. But he likes batting too much not to adapt to that. And in the end, Middlesex Just made it.

SUSSEX
N J Lenham c Embury b Williams 3
JP Moores b Haynes 76
P W G Parker c Downton b Gatting 74
P P Ramprakash b Williams 74
M P Speight c Roseberry b Hughes 43
C M Wells c Butcher b Embury 59
J J Gould not out 13
Extras (b 1, lb 2, w 1, nb 4) 6
Total (8 wickets, 55 overs) 282
AIC Doddams, J A North, A R Hansford and A R Clarke did not bat.
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-38, 2-64, 3-98, 4-197, 5-249, 6-282.
BOWLING: Doddams 11-0-66-0, Williams 10-1-52-2, Gatting 6-0-41-1, Hughes 11-0-55-2, Clarke 11-0-70-0, Lenham 3-0-47-1, Embury 11-0-57-1, Haynes 4-0-23-1.

MIDDLESEX
D L Haynes c W P G Parker b Hansford 131
M A Roseberry c Gould b C M Wells 54
M R Ramprakash c Moores b Doddams 44
K R Brown b North 12
O J Butcher b Doddams 15
JP R Downton not out 15
JE Embury not out 16
Extras (b 1, lb 11, w 2, nb 2) 16
Total (8 wickets, 55 overs) 282
N F Williams, S P Hughes and N G Cowans did not bat.
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-14, 2-110, 3-210, 4-235, 5-234, 6-289.
BOWLING: Doddams 11-0-36-2, C M Wells 11-2-45-1, North 6-0-48-1, Hansford 11-0-55-2, Clarke 11-0-70-0, Lenham 3-0-47-1, Embury 11-0-57-1, Haynes 4-0-23-1.
Gold Award: D L Haynes.
Umpires: B J Hampshire and J D Bond.

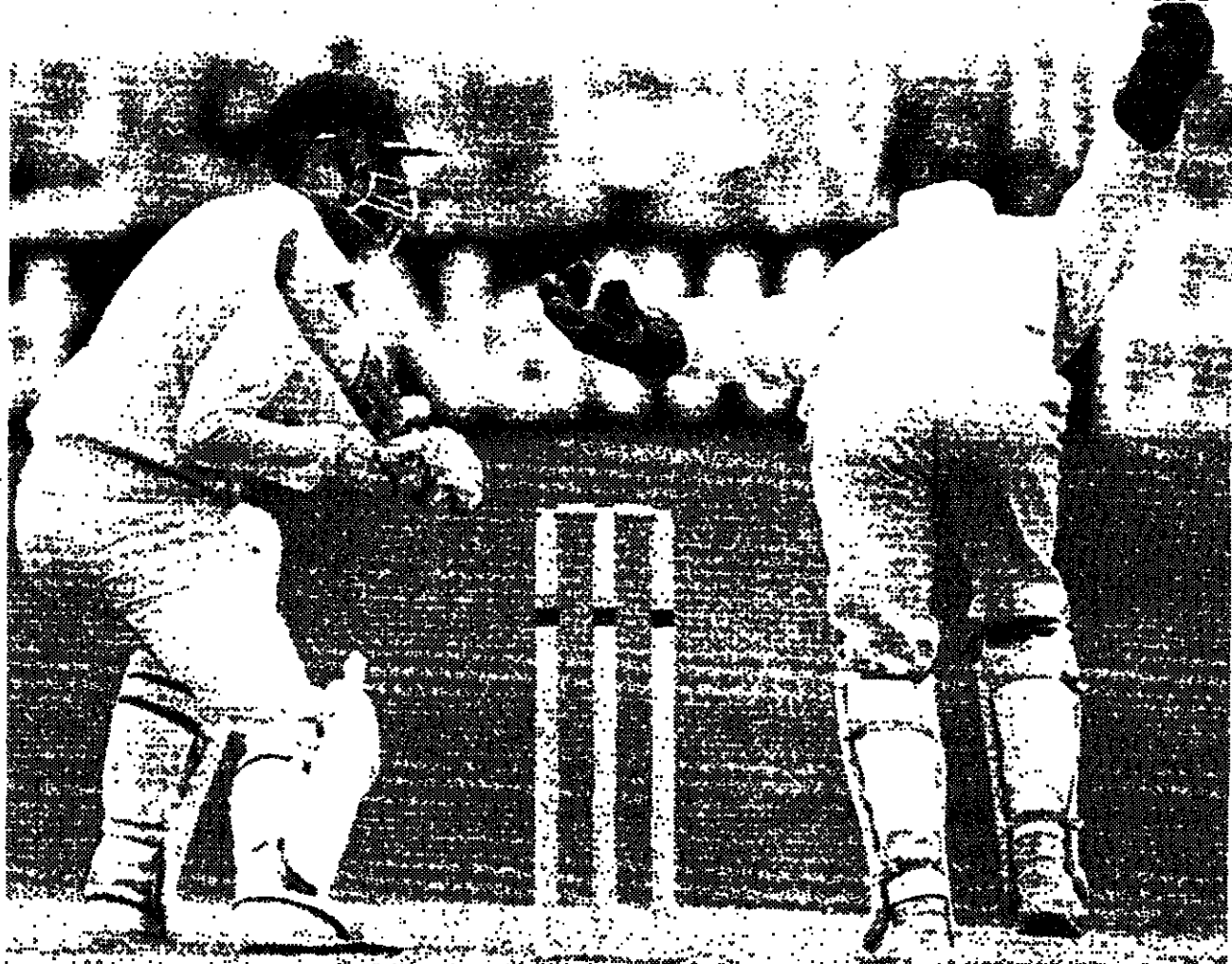
Hayhurst puts Somerset on the right path

By Geoff Wheeler

Somerset cantered past Minor Counties by six wickets in yesterday's Benson and Hedges Cup game at Taunton despite having their last 11 overs as their seventh-wicket pair, Norfolk all-rounder David Thomas and the Durham wicketkeeper Andy Forthright, went on the rampage. Somerset, needing 241, lost Cook and Roebuck in scoring 45 and had Hayhurst not been missed before he had scored, might have struggled. But the former Lancashire player went on to make 76 and put victory in sight.

Yorkshire's third-wicket pair, Blakey and Robinson, who both made half centuries, extricated their side from a position of some embarrassment against Combined Universities at Headingley. After being put in, Yorkshire lost Moxon and McCall in making 17 and had already used up 25 overs in scoring 48 when rain caused a lengthy interruption. Kellert was third out at 76, with the rate barely over two an over, before Blakey and Robinson accelerated in a stand of 90 which enabled Yorkshire to reach a defendable total of 197 for eight.

Play did not start until 5pm at Taunton where Nottinghamshire put Somerset in and dismissed Greenidge for a single. Cooper taking a good catch at long leg, Scotland, kept on a tight rein, are 115 for four from 37 overs.



In a flap: Moores, of Sussex, watches Downton, the Middlesex wicketkeeper, fly into action at Hove yesterday

Gooch gains gold as Essex ease into the quarter-finals

By Ivo Tennant

NORTHAMPTON (Essex won toss): Essex (2pts) beat Northamptonshire by eight wickets. ESSEX will have no easier task than to beat Lancashire in the quarter-finals. There were 16 overs of their innings still remaining when Graham Gooch won the match, and a place for his county in the Benson and Hedges Cup quarter-finals, with his thirteenth four. He finished six runs short of a century.

Gooch earned his eighteenth gold award, which probably means he has a record which will stand as long as Sir Leonard Hutton's 364 did at the Oval. Only Stephenson, who took three Northamptonshire middle-order wickets in nine balls, could have upstaged his captain. Looking to shepherd Essex along at only three runs an over, Gooch had little need to resort to anything extravagant. He means he has a record which will stand as long as Sir Leonard Hutton's 364 did at the Oval. Only Stephenson, who took three Northamptonshire middle-order wickets in nine balls, could have upstaged his captain. Looking to shepherd Essex along at only three runs an over, Gooch had little need to resort to anything extravagant. He means he has a record which will stand as long as Sir Leonard Hutton's 364 did at the Oval. Only Stephenson, who took three Northamptonshire middle-order wickets in nine balls, could have upstaged his captain. 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